

THE GATEWAY

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Climate change flash mob turns to rally



PETE YEE

GOT A LIGHT? Students in Quad hold up their cellphones in a symbolic demand of the Federal government to meet international pollution standards.

SEAN STEELS
Senior News Editor

Students, staff, and the environmentally conscious of the Garneau area gathered in Quad Monday morning to demand increased attention from the federal government on international and domestic climate change issues.

The event, which began as a flash mob — a timed convergence of demonstrators to quickly perform a public act before dispersing

— attracted nearly 100 demonstrators, who at the stroke of 11:55 a.m. raised their cellphones and demanded tangible change from the government, specifically regarding the approach of a U.N. climate deal set to be unveiled in December 2009 in Copenhagen, Denmark.

“It’s to signify us as a people trying to wake up our climate leaders and ask them to take stronger stances and set a fair, ambitious, and binding treaty in Copenhagen,” said Teryl Berg a spokesperson for Greenpeace on Campus.

The upcoming climate deal will set international pollution standards amongst developed nations, and hopes to hold countries to guideline goals of 25–40 per cent below 1990 pollution levels as outlined by a U.N. scientific panel.

The flash mob was coordinated as part of a larger series of events taking place worldwide at 2,200 different locations and in 128 different countries. The global event was organized by the online social justice group Avaaz.org.

PLEASE SEE **CLIMATE** ♦ PAGE 3

Lectures to give students taste of medical field

GILLIAN SZETO
News Writer

The medical profession is full of appealing aspects, but for many students, the prerequisite decade of commitment and mountain of cash aren’t readily available. For those students, the University presents its third annual Mini Medical School lecture series.

The lectures are hosted by the University of Alberta’s Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry’s division of continuous professional learning, running Tuesday evenings from September 22 until October 27. The focus of this series is to educate people on the various causes and processes behind different diseases, allowing students to become aware of the world of medicine in a completely approachable way.

Chris De Gara, professor of surgery and associate dean of continuous professional learning stated that the series is designed for all ages, and that previous medical knowledge is not necessary.

“[Medicine] is all so fascinating and interesting and challenging, and then [there’s] the joy of getting it right, being able to look after people, to show them how these things can be managed. I think that’s what most people will see,” he said.

Topics covered this year will include viruses, eyes, ears, skin, the process of aging, and modern medical education. Professors, researchers, and specialists such as a dermatologist and ophthalmologist will be giving these lectures on their respective topics.

For people that have attended these lectures in the past two years, the series will present new and different subjects to participants. No topics from the past are repeated, and this year’s focus reflects current issues such as H1N1.

PLEASE SEE **MED** ♦ PAGE 4

Transit Master Plan looks to sustainability

KRISTA ALLAN
News Writer

It was a step in the right direction for city commuters last week when City Council voted unanimously in favor of the Transportation Master Plan (TMP) after hearing several speakers praise it as an innovation and a benefit to the entire city.

The TMP is a guideline to address Edmonton’s future transportation needs. However, it’s not just a series of step-by-step instructions outlining where new bus routes should be placed or how many bike trails are needed.

Unlike previous TMPs, it advocates a shift in infrastructure planning to more sustainable public transit. This includes expanding the LRT to all areas of the city, building communities around transit infrastructure, and encouraging more people to use ETS by shifting focus away from the private car and encouraging more active transportation, such as biking or walking.

Jim Storrie, the Executive Director

of the Edmonton Bicycle Commuters Society, sees the plan as a great opportunity for more Edmontonians to get active and to use bicycles as their main form of transportation.

“Transit is currently meeting students’ needs; however, there are definitely places things can improve.”

NICK DEHOD
STUDENTS’ UNION
VICE PRESIDENT (STUDENT LIFE)

He also sees bikes as a better investment for the city, rather than increasing the number of roadways.

“It is odd that [currently] the city only spends one to two per cent of its transportation budget on facilities for bicyclists given that infrastructure for bicycles and other forms of active

transportation are very inexpensive compared to putting in roadway projects,” he said.

The TMP will also have a positive impact on students. U of A Students’ Union Vice President (Student Life), Nick Dehod, who spoke in favour of the plan at the municipal hearing, pointed out the city still had improvements to make.

“Transit is currently meeting students’ needs; however, there are definitely places things can improve. The TMP will put more money into transit in the long term and as we see the U-Pass becoming more popular [...] we’re going to need more infrastructure to make sure that demand is met with improved service,” he said.

“Students start using transit more and they become more familiar with the transit service in Edmonton, and much more likely to use transit after they’re done their degrees. In that way, the TMP is a good program for the city on the whole,” Dehod added.

PLEASE SEE **TMP** ♦ PAGE 4

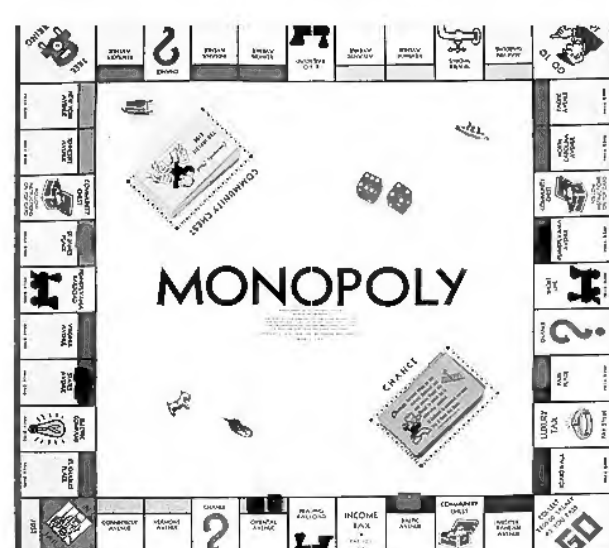


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: PAUL SWANSON

ROLL ON The TMP controls all civic investment and development in transport.

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Tele-visual creation

Ever wonder if it’s possible to make a full-length movie based off of *Scrabble*? We answer an affirmative Y-E-S.

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Real appreciation

Longer than a full-length film, Friday night’s roast of Don Horwood was filled with laughter and praise.

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THE GATEWAY

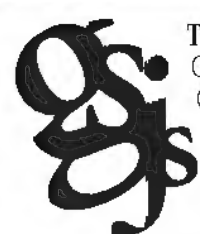
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Second Alberta Arts Days makes its mark downtown

The city core brimmed with paint, paper, and the University's creative energy this past weekend

MIRANDA KOLODNICKI
News Writer

Students from the Faculty of Extension, along with fellow artists, brought their creativity-fuelled talents to bear in the busy Enterprise Square this past weekend, as a part of Alberta Arts Days.

Art Central is an event sponsored by the Alberta Foundation for the Arts in collaboration with the provincial government's initiative of Alberta Art days. The University of Alberta's Faculty of Extension and eight other art supporters in and around the downtown area came together last weekend to welcome a new scholastic year. Workshops, displays, and seminars were scattered throughout the weekend's schedule, where bystanders and visitors alike could partake in various forms of art.

Micheal Phair is the director of community relations at Enterprise Square. He stressed the importance of all the organizations that took part in the collaboration.

"The Stanley Milner Library, the Citadel Theatre, the Alberta Art Gallery [and others] are all participating as a part of the Alberta Art days," he said.

Organizers said the event came together at "the 11th hour," resulting in a cross-section of many important arts facilities converging together to allow the public access. For example, the Citadel ran an open house, while the Art Gallery gave half-price admission all weekend. The initiative served to portray Edmonton's vibrant culture in the middle of its downtown core.

It's rare in a large metropolis that both the downtown and the arts district are near one another. Edmonton's are not only close — they're intertwined. Organizers credited this serendipitous placement with allowing the affair to flourish.

Anu Varsava is the director of marketing at the Faculty of Extension. She targeted the event's downtown location as its most valuable asset.

"People coming here are anybody connected with the University, but also those people that are already downtown. [It's] a real concrete illustration of the University connecting with the community," she said.

Phair emphasized that this connection is well-illustrated in the fact that all the art exhibited is local.

"Everybody that we have connected here in our programs are all local, — local artists, local musicians — [so that people] recognize the importance and value of art in our community," he said. "We are very proud to be a part

of that."

Besides demonstrating that art is alive and well in Edmonton, the event reassured artists throughout the city that their teachings are expanding and reaching beyond the classroom.

A modern twist on these teachings was put to the test downtown, as formal art was pitted against a new developing form of art: graffiti. Saturday's graffiti workshop let students and visitors step up and try their hand with stencils and paint. It was followed by an open discussion surrounding the problem about whether it should be considered an art form or an act of civil disobedience. In some parts of the city, it's a constant problem, as vandals deface public property regularly. But graffiti

has been brought from the side lines and imposed as a new form of public expression in other areas.

For those appreciative of a more traditional medium, a drawing studio also took place on Saturday. Easels were set up with still-life arrangements placed casually in front. These contrasting events highlighted the University's aim to please all who visited Enterprise Square over the weekend. The diversity of the workshops, seminars, performances, and community sponsored events proved to be a successful way for the University to help local artists showcase their work.

"[This event] is really a way the University builds its local connections," Phair said.



STEFFI ROSSKOPF

PERFECT STROKES Aaron Paquette, a local artist puts the finishing touches on a painting at the Royal Alberta Museum.

One third of students back out of new health plan

SIMON YACKULIC
News Staff

With the September 16 opt-out date behind us, preliminary results have been released that broadly outline the student response to the Student Union's health plan in its initial semester, indicating that the majority of University of Alberta undergraduate students have chosen to keep the coverage for the 2009/10 school year.

Official results have not yet been released, but a preliminary tally indicates that while 32 per cent of students opted out of the plan entirely, 37.7

per cent of students (including the aforementioned 32 per cent) changed their coverage to some degree.

"So when I say 37 per cent, that means 37 per cent of people either changed their plan, or they opted out completely," explained Nick Dehod, Vice President (Student Life). He added that so far problems with the plan have been minimal. "Though it's only been a day or two since the deadline, we've had one or two students come in saying they've missed [it],"

To be sure that students weren't hit unaware with the cost of the new plan, Dehod took to the campus with the SU

Street Team and talked to numerous students about how they found the opt-out process. He said the students he spoke to described the process as "really easy."

When it comes to the large number of students opting out, Dehod explained that based on results from Quebec universities that also allowed a universal opt-out, he was expecting results to range anywhere from 21 to 42 per cent of undergrads. The U of A appears to be in the upper range of these numbers, yet according to the results from Quebec universities, the opt-out rate does seem to drop over

time. And while Dehod himself has opted out, he believes these results, indicating that 62.3 per cent of students have kept full coverage, are a ringing endorsement of the principles behind a student health plan.

"I think, in talking to students, that this plan is going to help a lot of people that didn't have coverage before, or they had coverage with their parents and didn't have as good a coverage as this plan offers," explained Dehod. "It's an affordable plan, and if you need coverage then I think it'll definitely help you out throughout the year."

STREETERS

Compiled and photographed by
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Nursing III**Hammad Mazhar**
Business IV**Stephanie Quehn**
Science I

To be honest, I haven't been to any of them, but live music sounds pretty good. If they can get local bands, any up-and-coming bands would be pretty interesting to see.

I'd like to see more spoken word poetry.

I'll go for raves. Students love raves, and there should be more raves here at University.

Live music is pretty cool, but if we could see more skits and drama stuff, that would broaden the whole arts perspective.

As you may be aware, Alberta Arts Days featured live performances on SUBstage this year. What other kinds of events should be at next year's festival?

Galilean telescope shakes off dust

ARAH SLACK
News Staff

The telescope of Galileo was an elegant device of the 17th-century Enlightenment, turning astrological conjecture into the science of astronomy. Its day in the sun was the topic of a lecture by Professor Albert Van Helden of Houston's Rice University last week at the University of Alberta, in which he fondly summed up Galileo's device as having a brief-but-glorious career.

"What intrigued me was how quickly the Galilean telescope had reached its potential, and how quickly — in terms of discovery, in terms of power — it had become obsolete," Van Helden began.

The telescope had a simple construction of convex and concave glass lenses. Indeed, that simplicity of Galileo's telescope design evidently incited claims that his was not the first.

"Would it be an act of genius, for a spectacle maker, to put together a concave and convex lens and invent a telescope?" Van Helden inquired. "That is the sort of thing you'd expect a spectacle-maker to know [...] But if

you make a counter-intuitive move, and restrict the aperture [of view], then, all of a sudden, we get a clear image."

This was the genius of Galileo's telescope. Prior telescopes offered a large-but-fuzzy image. When Galileo restricted the aperture, this delivered an image that was enlarged and clean for the first time.

Not only was the design groundbreaking, but Van Helden added that Galileo polished and ground lenses to get the clarity needed for the telescope's range.

Interspersing 16th- and 17th-century sepia illustrations and photos of artifacts, Van Helden gave a personal, as well as professional resumé of Galileo, mentioning previous instruments and patents, family life and professional appointments, and recalling handwritten manuals with familiarity.

Van Helden also explained the practical limitations on Galileo's design, in that one can only take in a small part of the telescope's field of view.

"In the Galilean telescope, the exit pupil [...] is larger than the pupil of your eye," he said. "That means, if you move your eye laterally, the field moves with you [...] That is one of

the great limitations of the Galilean telescope."

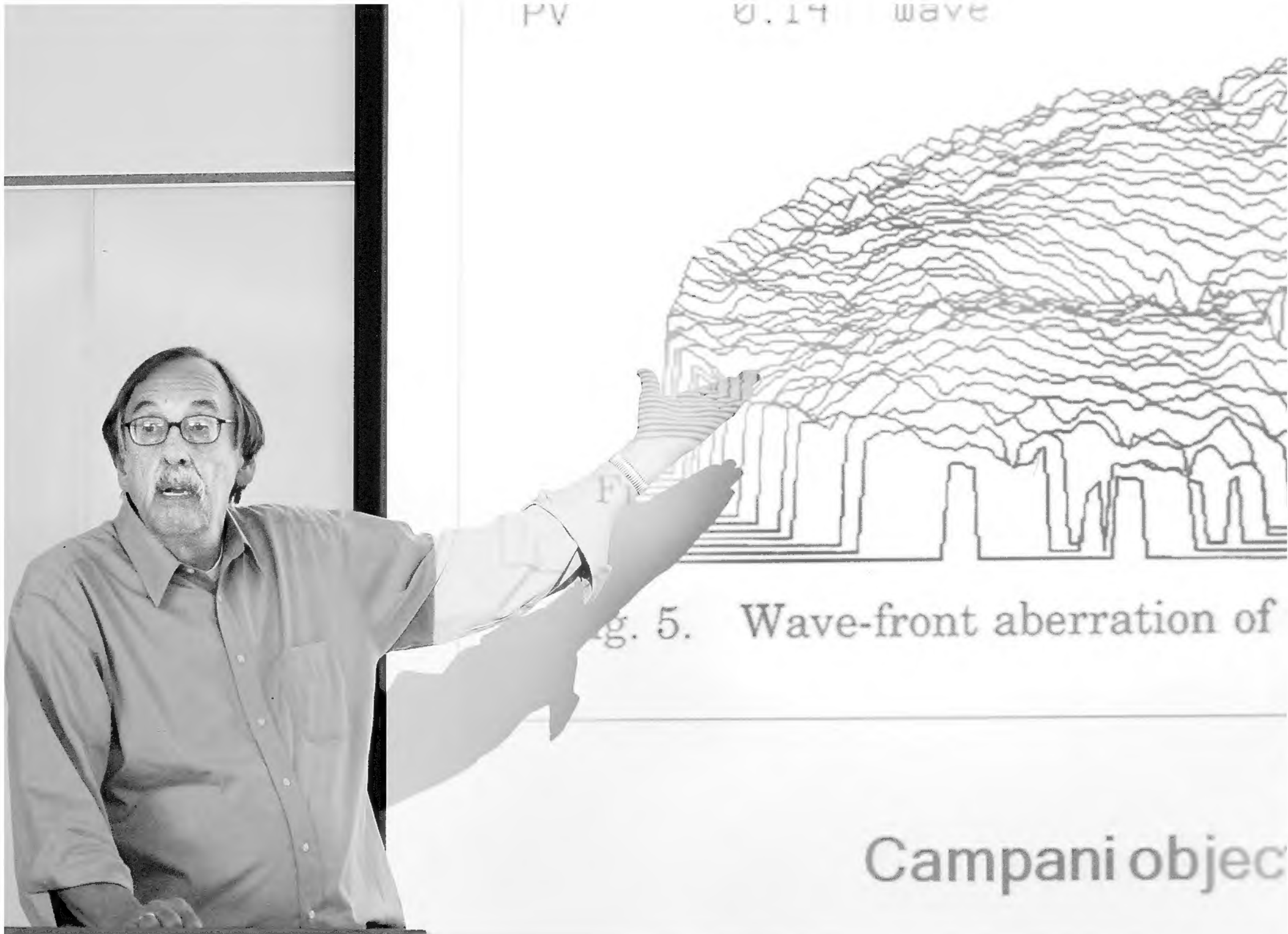
Galileo made this first spyglass in June 1609, and began methodical observation for a scientific publication of his findings.

"What [Galileo] observed first was, of course, the moon," Van Helden said, noting that the astronomer charted the varied topography of its surface.

This seemingly innocuous discovery had earth-shattering implications for the age's philosophers and scientists. Under the Aristotelian astronomy of the day, Earth was understood as geocentric, and the surfaces of the planets surrounding as flawlessly smooth.

Van Helden also showcased Galileo's mathematical approach and his enthusiasm for accuracy. Despite stubbornness and speculative inconsistency from colleagues, Galileo's findings with this telescope forever changed the cosmological beliefs of our galaxy into a scientific and open-eyed sphere of understanding, Van Helden concluded.

"There were people who wished him ill, lots of people. You loved the guy, you hate the guy. Galileo was a person about whom you would not tend to be neutral."



SULAIMAN MOAZAM

ILLUSTRATING A POINT Van Helden explains how Galileo would have mapped the moon using only visual observations.

Students speak out on climate change

CLIMATE ♦ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

High on the agenda at Monday's gathering was setting not only realistic, but binding targets regarding Canada's involvement with climate change prevention.

"We want something that has real, enforceable targets," Berg said, pointing to guidelines set out by KYOTOplus, a joint campaign of Canadian public interest groups, as a good place from which to begin crafting new policy.

Berg also identified upcoming action in Parliament on Bill C-311, the Climate Change Accountability Act, as essential to the establishment of responsible federal policy. The bill, tabled by the NDP in 2006, failed to achieve royal assent because of the timing of the 2008 federal election, and its reintroduction aims to reduce the country's emissions to 25 per cent below national levels in 1990 by the year 2020.

"This bill would help establish science-based targets, which is something

that's lacking in Canada," she said. "[The bill] would be integral in helping Canada meet respectable goals for the climate change deal."

"When we talk in terms of a resolution's fairness, we have to be fair with less-developed nations who can't afford to meet the goals we can."

TERYL BERG
MEMBER, GREENPEACE ON CAMPUS

According to Berg, it's the place of affluent Canadian citizens and government to set examples internationally, and strive towards lofty climate change goals for the benefit of nations that, at the moment, are unable to meet such goals.

"Poor countries contribute the least to climate change and suffer the most because of it," she said.

"When we talk in terms of a resolution's fairness, we have to be fair with less-developed nations who can't afford to meet the goals we can. We have to be climate leaders."

MP for Edmonton-Strathcona Linda Duncan was also in attendance at the flash mob, and shared Berg's concerns for Canada's image as an international role model, and the fate of C-311. She cited citizen involvement and protest in the establishment of the bill as integral to Canada's ability to set reliable goals for itself.

"We're pushing to have our leading scientists and youth testify [when this comes to proceedings next week]. We want the bill voted on in Parliament before the government goes to Copenhagen," she said.

"We need our government to commit right now so we can convince other countries to buy in and set an example."

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Every year APIRG provides approximately \$30,000 in direct grants, as well as in-kind services, support and training to student working groups, projects and events. We also maintain an office and resource centre, which is open to all APIRG members.

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September 17 - October 30, 2009

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www.apirg.org

Gabriela Montero
performs Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 2



September 30, 2009 Winspear Centre
with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra
After intermission: solo recital of piano improvisations

"When improvising," Gabriela says, "I connect with my audience in a completely unique way - and they connect with me." Gabriela recently performed with Yo-Yo Ma and Itzhak Perlman at the inauguration ceremony for President Barack Obama.

Tickets at EdmontonSymphony.com or 780-428-1414

City, river contrast inspires AGA architect

Randall Stout talks about his design and hopes for the new building at the Winspear Centre

JONATHAN TAVES
Deputy News Editor

The architect of the Art Gallery of Alberta (AGA) was on hand at the Winspear Centre on Saturday afternoon to speak about his inspiration for the building, which will open on January 31, 2010.

The Los Angeles-based firm Randall Stout Architects, Inc. was selected in 2005 to design the new 7,900-square-metre AGA following a long selection process.

Environmentally friendly features were a strong focal point of the new \$88-million facility, including water conservation strategies, use of recycled materials and existing structures, glazing to reduce heat gain, and efficient lighting, cooling, and heating systems.

Stout, president and namesake of the firm, detailed how he used the natural landscape of Edmonton as his inspiration for early blueprints.

"There were several visits to the city and there was an immediate recognition of a very distinct difference, [...] in the sense that the river maintained its flowing natural and rugged qualities as it moved through the urban grid," he said. "We started working with these two different languages, one being boxes and one being curves."

Stout used that contrast in creating the "Aurora Borealis," the waving, 31-metre-high, stainless-steel formation that makes up the building's entrance.

"My strategy on lighting has generally been to hide the lighting device [...] to illuminate architectural surfaces. So in this instance, the borealis became a two-sided object, silver on the exterior to reflect the changing colour in the sky during the daylight hours, [and] primarily white [on the interior] which is the ideal surface to bounce light off," Stout said.

"What we're trying to accomplish is this sense of a beacon, if you will — a welcoming



DAN MCKECHNIE

FEELING THE FLOW The aurora borealis inspired Stout to create the AGA's swooping metal exterior.

type of architectural illumination."

The surrounding architecture also factored into the design.

"Another observation was one that was hard to miss, the idea of festival city and the influences of the dynamic use of Sir Winston Churchill Square on the architectural position," Stout explained. "Also, there was the important relationship between the AGA and City Hall. Because of the wonderful civic nature of these public spaces, clearly there was a type of gateway approach that we were thinking about."

No aspect of the environment was ignored, and Edmonton's long winters inspired unique features that are yet to be revealed.

"There will be some nice surprises as you use this facility that are weather-related. We have chosen to celebrate the presence of snow in a couple locations. I'll leave it at that, and save that surprise for wintertime," Stout smiled.

Stout has invested a lot of his time into the initiative, and he said he's looking forward to its full realization in January.

"I have only four and a half months left to have a say on this project, and then after that it belongs to you, to Edmontonians and Albertans," he said. "It will be used in a creative way for arts programs, for education, for life-long learning, to contributing to greater sense of community."

TMP focuses on LRT expansion

TMP ♦ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Although the effects of the TMP will not be felt right away, it's a step in the right direction to make our city a greener, better place to live, according to Ward 6 councillor Dave Thiele.

"I hope we keep going in a positive direction so we can all be proud of the city, what legacy we may have left, and the future legacies of the suburban people," he said.

"That's what we're talking about here — the nitty gritty of this plan will come to prove itself in ten years from now, when we see how much the bike path system has increased within our city, and the LRT is finished by 2015."

Series will explore human biology

MED ♦ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"It is very much meant for those who are curious about matters of disease, to get a flavour for what it's like to be a medical student, and what they might get to learn," he said. "Understanding how viruses work will be an interesting part of the process."

Although these lectures aren't designed for prospective medical students to gain leverage into the field, there will be first-year med-students participating as volunteers. They're there to offer their insights, help answer questions and assist in other tasks such as registering participants.

Online registration for these lectures is still possible for anyone that wants to attend. For those curious about how diseases affect the body, organizers promise it will be an educational and enlightening experience.

"Everything will be a voyage of discovery," De Gara said. "If you don't know anything about the skin other than you know you've got some, you'll be amazed at what goes on."



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IT'S YOUR EDUCATION, YOUR MONEY - START ASKING QUESTIONS.

This past weekend, professional eater "Humble Bob" Shoudt ate 33 burritos in 10 minutes to win a International Federation of Competitive Eating contest.

At Gateway News, we love volunteers who take all they can chew.



GATEWAY NEWS:
Not getting the appeal of competitive eating since 1910

News Meetings Fridays at 3 p.m. SUB 3-04
newsies@gateway.ualberta.ca

Second Life opens virtual classroom

Ontario universities will use interactive, 3-D technology to enhance teaching



ON THE GRID *Second Life* is being used to immerse students in realistic simulations, including responding to disasters.

DANIELLE WEBB
CUP Ontario Bureau Chief

TORONTO (CUP) — Imagine studying ancient Egypt while exploring the Great Pyramids, or reading Shakespeare's *Hamlet* while touring the Globe Theatre to see where it was first performed.

Technology is making that possible: what once involved expensive exchange and travel programs is now being offered on the Internet to everyday students at campuses across Ontario.

Growing use of the virtual world *Second Life* in classrooms across Ontario may soon make this kind of learning commonplace.

"The use of a three-dimensional environment such as *Second Life* appeals to different learning styles and needs by immersing participants in authentic scenarios that otherwise would not be possible in a conventional classroom," said Rosa Bruno-Jofré, Dean of Education at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario.

The Queen's Faculty of Education is among the first to explore the benefits of *Second Life*, and for the past year has been teaching Education students about the benefits of this virtual learning environment so that they may one day include it in their own classrooms.

"It generates new participatory ways of going beyond the boundaries of the classroom, beyond regions, and moving across countries and cultures. Students can visit art galleries, the Sistine Chapel, [or] learn geometry

while moving things around," Bruno-Jofré said.

The virtual world has benefits for recruitment to the education program, too. In the summer of 2007, development began on a *Second Life* island — a piece of virtual real estate users can customize for their specific needs — where replicas of Education buildings have been created and future B.Ed students can participate in orientation programs online. Current students also have the option to use the alternate reality to complete class work, interact with one another, and listen to speakers.

Bruno-Jofré explains that *Second Life* is not meant to replace the traditional classroom environment, but to compliment it and expand on what learning can offer.

York professor Ali Asgary is also busy incorporating the game into his fundamentals of emergency management online course.

"I was looking for ways to incorporate some team-based emergency management exercises in my course," Asgary said. When he attended a *Second Life* presentation at a business conference in early 2008, he found a solution.

Asgary has used the virtual environment to simulate disaster scenarios in which students act as an emergency operations team and develop an emergency response strategy.

Due to the high technology demands of *Second Life* — high-speed Internet and a powerful graphics card — Asgary isn't able to make the project mandatory for all students, and offers an alternative for those whose

computers can't support the world. But those who do choose to participate certainly enjoy their new virtual learning experience.

"Distance learning tends to be impersonal, but the *Second Life* online environment provided an opportunity for creative collaboration and real-time interaction between students that would have otherwise never met," said one student in an evaluation.

Asgary explained that, overall, students found that the exercise was successful in showing how crucial the responsibilities of an emergency response team are, as well as the importance of a quick and appropriate response to possible disaster-related dangers.

While both initiatives are still in their infancies, growth is happening quickly.

"We're looking at using *Second Life* as a recruiting tool [for the whole University]," said Stephanie Beauregard, manager of e-learning services at Queen's, in a recent press release.

"Students from all over the world can attend designated orientation sessions on our virtual campus, and ask questions in real time to our staff members without having to incur the cost of travel," she said.

York has plans for expansion as well, after Asgary gave a presentation on his experiences with the virtual world.

"At least three more faculties from [York] have decided to incorporate *Second Life* into their courses [this fall]," he said.

Election avoided after NDP, Bloc Québécois support government with confidence vote

EMMA GODMERE
CUP Ottawa Bureau Chief

OTTAWA (CUP) — There won't be an election just yet if the NDP and the Bloc Québécois have anything to say about it.

In the first confidence vote of the fall, both parties supported the Conservatives in passing a motion that will implement several tax breaks and provisions that were originally presented with the budget earlier this year.

"There's an important tax change for the low-income, working poor that's included in that bill, and these were things that we supported," NDP leader Jack Layton told reporters,

shortly after the vote in Parliament on the morning of September 18.

All bills related to spending public money are automatically considered matters of confidence.

The Liberal party announced earlier this month that they would not be supporting this Ways and Means motion, and would not be supporting a Conservative government.

"When you step outside the bubble of Parliament and you ask simple questions like, 'What's happening to our country?', [we have] a million and a half people unemployed, youth unemployment soaring, bankruptcies soaring, and a deficit that grew \$5 billion over the summer," said Liberal Party leader Michael Ignatieff.

"I've got a simple job here [...] which is just to decide, as Leader of the Opposition, whether I can continue to support a government with these facts, with this situation in our country."

"I had to stand up and say no, so that's what we did."

The Liberals will have their next chance to pass a non-confidence motion at the end of the month, after the Conservatives are expected to table a stimulus package update.

"The question is, 'Is this government good enough? Yes or no?' I've said no, and now my job is to present Canadians with a clear alternative — and that's what we'll be doing," Ignatieff said.

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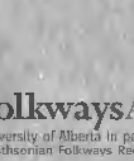
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Multiple choice is ultimately no choice at all

THIS PAST FRIDAY, ALBERTA EDUCATION MINISTER Dave Hancock announced 12th-grade diploma examinations in math and science would no longer contain a written portion, making the exams entirely multiple choice. The move comes as a money-saving measure after the Alberta government cut this year's education budget by a hefty \$80 million. Hancock said that by having a shorter exam period and having teachers spend less time marking written portions, the government hopes to save an estimated \$3.4 million.

While some high-school students may be throwing their binders and calculators skyward in celebration, a number of concerned teachers have already begun to speak out against a decision they say will not only negatively impact students, but also one they were not consulted on. Hancock insisted that evaluations of student test scores indicated that students often score similar grades on both the multiple choice and written portions of math and science exams and that eliminating the written portions would have little to no effect on students' marks. Jenny Regal of the Calgary Alberta Teachers Association, however, countered that students would likely suffer, as multiple-choice exams leave no room for a student to be given partial marks for answers, as is possible on a written examination.

In defending his decision, Hancock also said that removing the written portion would "reduce [students'] exam anxiety." Currently, diploma examinations in all subject areas are worth 50 per cent of a student's final grade in a course, and a pass or fail now hinges on only a two-hour multiple-choice examination in which students are no longer allowed to explain or defend any of their answers. That doesn't seem like a measure that will alleviate any student stress.

Although projected provincial deficits leave little wiggle room for non-essential costs, it's extremely unfortunate that high-school students' education has, in this case, been deemed non-essential. Though English and social studies examinations will retain their written components, the suggestion that students of math and science do not need to develop written communication skills or express their ideas in print will ultimately leave those students, when some of them decide to pursue post-secondary studies, at a major disadvantage.

No matter what career path you choose after high school, almost every single field requires some amount of writing. Besides cutting costs, there's no benefit to the student by removing an important skill from their tests. Sure, engineering or science students may not need to know how to wax rhapsodic about Oscar Wilde for 10 pages, but the practice of writing has practical applications in every discipline — something that the Writing Task Force (WTF) on the University of Alberta campus has been saying for years now.

The WTF formed on campus in 2005 in response to concerns about the writing skills of students across campus. Their recommendations spawned the on-campus Centre for Writers, which assists students in all faculties with improving their writing, and other initiatives aimed at improving the writing of students in non-Arts faculties.

While these helpful resources are available for all University students, they should be serving as a supplement to improve writing skills learned in high-school, not as an all-out replacement. Ultimately, while axing the written portions of high-school math and science exams will save some money, it will be the students who pay for those savings when they arrive in a first-year university biology course, lacking the words to properly express their ideas.

SARAH STEAD
Arts & Entertainment Editor



MIKE KENDRICK

letters TO THE eds

Tobacco Smack-o

Regarding your September 14 piece "Tobacco funds cause friction at University" — the comments of Colin Soskolne are quite remarkable. In fact, if tobacco addiction were not such a significant killer of Canadians, with an estimated 37,000 deaths per year attributable to its use, one might be inclined to laugh out loud. The assertion that it is common practice for academics to write on institution letterhead when expressing personal opinions that are in conflict with that institution's position on any given subject is nonsensical.

When one also considers that a relationship with the tobacco industry was not revealed, most institutions would terminate Professor Phillips' contract immediately. The School of Public Health's attempt to wish this away damages their credibility hugely and even raises suspicion that Phillip Morris may be actively managing this situation. The tobacco industry craves the credibility that 50 years of deception has lost them.

The likes of Phillips, Soskolne, and ultimately, the University of Alberta, give it to them. They should be ashamed.

MILAN KHARA
via e-mail

Stick that in your pipe

Although I'm not inclined to comment on Prof. Phillips' research, I will note that his letter to the editor (September 17) raises eyebrows at best. He was upset that the Gateway tried to reach him by his University of Alberta email. How silly of the Gateway. Instead, they should have done more than try to reach him at his office phone, like finding his other email address through Google or PubMed. Personally, I've never heard of PubMed.

What is disturbing is his innuendoes about the credibility of the Gateway staff. Ok, I'll give Gateway this, you guys are probably not professional journalists ready to receive Pulitzer prizes. I did read the article, and the major concern was if his research causes a conflict of interest for him because of who is paying for his research. To be "libel," it would have to be presented in front of a judge to show that accusations were completely made up. This

was not the case in the article — the article raised concern of possible bias. Which is not good science.

I think it's a pity that Prof. Phillips instead took his opportunity to respond by insinuating bad journalism and calling them unethical for printing an article of a group's concern of scientific bias. As for Prof. Phillips' research on "that Ward", where are his cited works to prove his allegations?

ZONYA JACOBS
Arts IV

Gotta keep it caffeinated

So, I had this thought to see what the value of my extremely well-earned dollar got me, coffee-wise. Of course there was a Starbucks, brand spanking new, and so familiar to me, a newcomer to the U of A.

Expensive? Sometimes. I usually get a tall coffee, and it runs me about \$2. Later, I thought to try Dewey's. So I go to order my coffee. It was around the \$2 mark as well — unfortunately I had run out of change buying my previous coffee hours before. But that's okay; I had my trusty student credit card! But wait — to use it I had to spend more than \$5. So I purchased a Rice Krispie square, and a bottle of water.

Not impressed.

Note to Dewey's: please don't penalize students for using other methods of payment. Also their cups aren't environmentally friendly. They're foam. Nice one.

DILLON GARA
Arts I

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 3-04 of the Students' Union Building, sent via paper aeroplane or emailed to letters@gateway.ualberta.ca. Online comments may also occasionally be published with the same criteria.

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libellous or otherwise hateful in nature. The Gateway also reserves the right to publish letters online.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the author's name, program, year of study and student identification number to be considered for publication.

Furthermore, emails featuring excessive amounts of exclamation marks, all-caps, large font sizes, chatspeak, odd colours and/or emoticons are liable to be ridiculed mercilessly by the editorial staff.

Truly, we doth protest too much



AARON
YEO

On September 28, Marc Emery, the leader of the Marijuana Party of Canada, will be sentenced to five years in an American prison on a charge of conspiracy to manufacture marijuana. Emery, known also as the “Prince of Pot,” is a Canadian citizen, but after a joint DEA and RCMP raid in 2005, he faced extradition to the United States. Thanks to the extreme efficiency with which North American court systems run, he will finally appear in a Seattle court next week. In response, demonstrations were organized to take place all around the world September 19, to protest his extradition. One such rally was right here in Edmonton, where around 40 people marched from City Hall to the Legislature, demanding justice for Marc Emery.

Of course, I was there. It was a fun-filled afternoon of chanting, cheering, and air-punching, all for one person. I met some great people, waved at honking cars, grabbed some cool photos, and overall just had an awesome time, even before any natural enhancers were perhaps kind of maybe involved. It’s clear and obvious: protests are definitely very social events. However,

one shouldn’t expect that it will have had any effect at all on Emery’s fate. Demonstrations are becoming so common these days that their meaning and effectiveness is slowly wearing off. Every so often a friend of yours will hear about some march being planned and say, “Hey, there’s a rally next week, that’s pretty cool. Wanna go?” “Yeah, sure, I think it’ll be fun.” Unless, of course, it was the 2009 Restricted Access campaign, because there’s nothing fun about standing in Edmonton’s January weather on a windy Saturday morning (the Board of Governors sure know how to schedule their meetings).

A demonstration is almost like some giant party, except without the alcohol and subsequent inebriated acts of embarrassing proportions.

Unfortunately for our bank accounts, the effort failed. There was no chance a congregation of hot-chocolate-sipping students wielding truth, justice, and red scarves could make a difference.

Look back at February of 2003, for example, when millions of people all around the world took to the streets to protest George W. Bush’s decision to invade Iraq. That

day obviously froze traffic, caused significant financial unrest, and put a halt to society on an otherwise normal day. The media probably loved it, but did Bush give a shit? Was the invasion of Iraq affected in any way? You’ve got to wonder what Saddam was thinking when he was watching those anti-war protests on his TV.

A demonstration is almost like some giant party, except without the alcohol and subsequent inebriated acts of embarrassing proportions. Attending one of these social gatherings is also an easy way to get on TV with little effort on your part, but a witty sign or an oversized papier-mâché head of a politician certainly helps.

One could say it’s like those iPhone commercials. Dissatisfied with Harper’s public education policies? There’s a protest for that! Feel like you’re getting ripped off by the Canada Pension Plan? There’s a protest for that, too! Want to marry your dog but the government won’t let you because that’s downright absurd and disgusting? There’s a protest for that! (Though please don’t forward the link to me.)

I’m not saying there’s anything wrong with someone wanting to rise up and stand in the center of it all. I admire people who can fight for a cause. But don’t expect peaceful protests to be the solution to all of the world’s problems. Not to be a pessimist, but history tells us, unfortunately, that the most effective demonstrations usually end in bloody streets.

The age-old love story of boy-meets-robot



STEPHEN
COOK

I am going to tell you a cautionary tale. A cautionary tale about myself, which, as my few ex-girlfriends will tell you, is my favourite topic of conversation.

The day before yesterday, a package came in the mail. It was a very special package, shipped all the way from the far-off land of Hong Kong. Inside was my pride and joy, a Japanese-edition Masterpiece Starscream, a 13”-long collector’s Transformers toy that altogether cost me just a little under \$100.

Now, this isn’t the chunky bozo of the live-action films. This is the sleek and sexy F-15 Eagle of the 1980s cartoon. And this is the finest model ever produced, complete with realistic weathering, landing gear, open-able cockpit and engine cover, and characteristic smirk on his robotic face. Did I mention realistic weathering? Yes — that means rust and blackened sections from exhaust. As if his natural beauty weren’t enough, I’ve already invested in accessories consisting of a cape and crown to mirror his appearance during the coronation scene of *The Transformers: The Movie*. Not the current generation’s explosive atrocity, no. We’re talking classic movie Starscream here.

I love him. When I look at this work of art, holding him adoringly inside my arms, I’m filled with two

“Starscream will never leave me for another. There will never be another man for me to compare myself to during long nights of self-loathing. I will never need to ask where Starscream has been or who he’s been with because he will always have been on my bedside table, either with me or alone. There is no middle ground.”

seemingly irreconcilable feelings: the first is the feeling you get when staring at the one you love from across the covers, entranced by his or her beauty, and the wholeness he or she bestows upon your being. The other is the feeling you experience when holding a gun, empowered by its deadly capabilities and phallic design. It is at once magnificent and alarming, a dangerous romance I’ve yet to encounter with a woman. And yet, if these feelings should persist, I may never need to do so. Simply put: Starscream is the best partner I could ask for.

He does what I ask without complaint, (whether it be something physical (read: highly poseable) or emotional. He’s always ready to listen and I’m always ready to speak, yet this gross imbalance wears naught on our relationship. Nor do any of my other lesser qualities: Starscream never criticizes my poor attitude or questions the nobility of my intentions.

Not once has he brought attention to my chronic aversion to regular bathing. Just as he is perfect in my eyes, so am I perfect in his (inferred by the absence of audible grievances). Truly, these qualities have been more than a little lacking in my personal life thus far.

Yet most importantly, Starscream will never leave me for another.

There will never be another man for me to compare myself to during long nights of self-loathing. I will never need to ask where Starscream has been or who he’s been with because he will always have been on my bedside table, either with me or alone. There is no middle ground. And even as time passes and we both grow old — me with my wrinkles and he with his loose joints and pockets of dust in those impossible-to-reach places — this will never change. He is completely and forever mine, and all this fidelity cost me was a few digits from my bank account.

Did I lose my original thesis somewhere in the writing of this article? Is this a tale of caution or one of inspiration? And most importantly, did the gin cure the writer’s block or simply cause me to spout some unintelligible rubbish? You’re the final judge, dear reader. But remember — whilst you may choose to toil on the battlefields of romance, rushing about it’s-not-you-it’s-me-isms and waiting for the day you’ll hear the beautiful sound of love coming down like a mortar bomb, I will be wrapped in the warm plastic love of my dear Starscream, shielded from the myriad of worries caused by that blasted Theory of Mind.

Envy me.

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The University of Alberta Alumni Association is awarding two \$2500 scholarships and one \$1000 scholarship.

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VIDEO GAME ANTIQUITIES:



paradise CITY

Somehow, *Burnout: Paradise* manages to separate the video game clichés of death and destruction. Not by decreasing the mayhem — half the fun of the driving game is still crashing cars in slow motion. Rather, the death toll is averted simply by having no pedestrians or drivers anywhere within Paradise City. Cars that run themselves. How’s that for automatic transmission?

Unlike Paradise City, Gateway Opinion won’t let everyone operate constantly on cruise control. But it’s not as much work as you think. Set your autopilot to SUB 3-04 on Tuesdays at 5 p.m. and aim for a crash course in journalism know-how, not to mention the odd barrel roll and fender-bender. Road rage? We can work with that.

GATEWAY Opinion

racking up a surprisingly LOW
BODY COUNT SINCE 1910

The movie train is now boarding: are you game enough to hop on?

With recent movie deals to *Clue* and *Candyland*, the *Gateway* Opinion staff pitches their childhood board games as blockbusters



OPINION
STAFF

Group
Commentary

Hannah Cochran

Ah, *Monopoly*. What could be more enjoyable and entertaining than a three-hour opus painfully detailing the steep rise and tumbling fall of the real estate market? We watch our protagonist, the enigmatic and brooding Uncle Pennybags (Alec Baldwin), rise from his ignoble beginnings in the slums of Mediterranean Avenue, to the decadent excess and white-collar criminality of Park Place. Initially an outsider, Pennybags' blank observation provides us with a strange, unbiased perspective on the tendency of large sums of money to blur one's boundaries of right and wrong. Gradually, the pull of greed and ambition prove too strong to resist, and our hero becomes corrupted.

A slow-but-inevitable cavalcade of compromises and rationalizations lead to his eventual submersion into this world of larceny, embezzlement, and fraud. However, Ponzi schemes, insider trading, and mismanagement of resources can only be sustained for so long. In Pennybags' and his strangely non-anthropomorphic colleagues' haste to continue hotel and housing expansion while fattening their own wallets, they begin to dangerously ravage the supports of the economy. The market crashes, and the country is plunged into depression. In the calamitous finale, we see Pennybags in his office, ruminating on the nature of man, and his own arrogant belief that he could play God. His pecuniary indiscretions discovered, we see policemen entering his building,

ready to send him to jail, but before they reach him, Pennybags takes his own life, surrounded by ill-gotten community chest cards.

Like the game, this film is not for the impatient — be prepared to be seated through several pot-boiling hours of subtlety and introspection. Still, anything for some fantastical escapism from reality, right?

Dustin Banks

In a world torn apart by a nuclear war, two empires struggle for supremacy to control the northern ice fields, the last source of potable water. Both the United Regions of Bramerica, and the Mighty Brussian Kingdoms (any superficial resemblance to actual countries is purely coincidental) have sent the last of their once indomitable fleets to secure the Northern Expanse, the last hope for their peoples.

"Admiral Ford! There's a problem!"

"What is it, ensign?"

"The storm last night, sir — it froze the ocean."

"What do you mean?"

"The ocean, sir, it's frozen. All of it. We can't move."

"No excuses! We have long-range missiles on the ship."

"But sir, the storm knocked out our targeting system!"

"Well then, ensign ... I suppose you had better guess."

Alone at the top of the world, the ultimate naval standstill will occur...

"All hands, this is Admiral Ford. At 0600 hours, we will begin exchanging volleys with the Brussian ships. The storm is interfering with the radar, so after each bout, we will inform them if they have hit any of our ships, and they will do the same. Good luck and Godspeed."

Battleship. You don't remember it like I do.

Alice Dolphin

Picture this: a raven-haired vixen invites a group of friends to her secluded family estate. In the midst of their boozing, she struts into the room clad in a tight scarlet bikini; as she utters the daring suggestion "Let's play Spoons," shiny utensils appear from behind her taut, lickable back. "But," she huskily whispers, "it'll be like no Spoons you've ever played."

Just like *Death By Spoons* will be like no movie you've ever seen. Those of you who play spoons are accustomed to the wrestling and occasional bloodshed. But prepare to be unaccustomed; *Death By Spoons* oozes with blood and boasts a ravage in the mud. Yes, you heard me — girls, bikinis, alcohol, mud, and spoons, united at last. And if that doesn't compel you to pound your table and demand this masterpiece's immediate release, let me assure you there's more. The spoons are placed in undisclosed locations around the estate and the sexy young partiers must enter into the hunt of their lives. Many of the spoons are booby-trapped and some are weapons of mass destruction. Also, one of them is a spork in disguise.

The suspense will chill you, your stirring loins will thrill you, and you'll exit the theatre satisfied, as if you had banged two randy sluts after downing a footlong meatball sub with extra cheese. That is *Death By Spoons*. So experience the lust, the rush, and don't forget to bring your spoons, because afterward, you know you wanna play.

Jon Grier

In a world where the innocent and guilty are incessantly apologetic, evil lurks. One man must offend the world into being inconsiderate assholes, in order to draw out the ultimate evil feeding off the world's consideration. Dane Cook stars as Blue Max in *Sorry!: The Movie*. Carlos Mencia plays the diabolical ghost Sorry,

who jumps from person to person hiding in their apologies. Larry the Cable Guy co-stars as Dane's best friend, Big Redd. Andy Dick plays Dane's long-lost comedy teacher, Master Mustard. Tom Green plays himself to keep the inane colour-pun alive, and to add some actual raunch talent to the cast. Taking the comedy circuit by storm, the troupe tour the country converting entire cities into complete pricks. All with the purpose of cornering Sorry.

Picture it — pun after pun after pun of "Who's sorry?" "I'm sorry." "Who's sorry now?" while entire cities burn from bad comedy. And then out of nowhere, the movie becomes a buddy-buddy-buddy-buddy action movie. The explosion rate increases to two per minute. Carlos Mencia gets sent back to hell. Andy Dick drowns in a sea of cocaine. Tom Green takes a chainsaw to the genitals. All is well with the world, except my childhood.

Mim Fatmi

When it comes to reliving your entire childhood in a two-hour period of sitting in an uncomfortable chair, peering over self-involved and incredibly chatty teenagers, *Scrabble: The 2D Movie* is the jackpot you want to hit. Featuring an all-star cast of 26, *Scrabble* truly captures the trials and tribulations of living as a flat wooden panel when life has you feeling square.

The 122-minute feature follows the life of one character in particular: Y. You may remember him from his debut performance in *Sesame Street*, but *Scrabble* is a long leap away from his cameo with Norah Jones. Rather, we become enlightened on how difficult it truly is to be neither a consonant nor a vowel, and never really fitting in anywhere. We can't help but understand Y's manic-depressive tendencies when we observe how difficult it is for him to hang around his best friends, (O, R, and G), and how careful he has to be when arranging himself around them, especially with his grandmother nearby.

Even the simplest of tasks, like remembering to turn sideways when walking through doorways, becomes a challenge.

Of course, in the end, our hero does overcome. Upon sifting through the local dump while looking for some direction in life, he discovers a pair of plastic glasses, with one red lens and one blue. With his day turning out to be better than a triple word score, Y realises that despite his unintentional inclinations to finish off the spellings of some unfortunate words, he is needed in his world — and that even his world has more than four sides to it.

Ian Phillipchuk

Imagine, if you will, a grizzled Tom Hanks, standing alongside a grizzled Tom Sizemore, and in front of a grizzled Matt Damon, and to the left of a grizzled Vin Diesel, perched on the top of a hill, binoculars pressed to his eyes. By now you're obviously asking yourself, "Wait, who exactly has the binoculars?" or "Does everyone have to be grizzled?" or perhaps "Vin Diesel was in *Saving Private Ryan*?" The answer to all three of those questions is obviously "yes."

Suddenly, you know that shit is about to go down — the music picks up, and the main characters, hearing this, grip their weapons tightly. Across the hills of the Ural territory, countless cannons crest the hill flanked by men on horses. Tom Hanks, briefly contemplating his grizzledness (that's a word; I looked it up and Hanks' picture is beside it), yells out an order as the orchestral music swells, the brave men of Hanks' Grizzlies grip their muskets and charge down the hill, funny hats bobbing with the motion.

The picture suddenly freezes on the image of countless Grizzlies falling from cannon fire, before slowly fading to black. Fading back in, a strong Verdana or perhaps Courier paints the word "RISK" on the screen, followed by "Summer 2011."

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Trailer Park Boys decide to clean up their act? Never.

filmreview

Trailer Park Boys: Countdown to Liquor Day

Directed by Mike Clattenburg
Starring John Paul Tremblay, Robb Wells, Mike Smith, John Dunsworth, and Pat Roach
Open September 25

AARON YEO
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Throughout Canada, Alberta is sometimes known as the redneck province, but a few guys from Nova Scotia beg to differ. Ricky, Julian, and Bubbles are back in business in *Trailer Park Boys: Countdown to Liquor Day*, and while the actual TV series ended in 2007 after seven moderately successful seasons, this film is one last shot at the trailer park from director Mike Clattenburg. *Countdown to Liquor Day* isn't a continuation of *The Big Dirty* (TPB's movie released in 2006), but rather, just one last storytelling effort.

The last time we heard from Ricky and Julian was in the memorable TV special in late 2008. After falling victim to a dastardly plot from Sunnyvale park supervisor Jim Lahey, the pair gets sent to prison. This film picks up from their release two years later, and everything has changed.

Mr. Lahey runs a new luxurious trailer park, leaving Sunnyvale to be an abandoned ghost town. He's been alcohol-free ever since the boys got sent to the slammer, and is more successful than ever. His trailer park is as white, upper-class, and suburban as a trailer park in Nova Scotia can be.

Julian presents his four-year business plan to the parole board to open up an auto body repair shop, while Ricky sets out to be the first person in

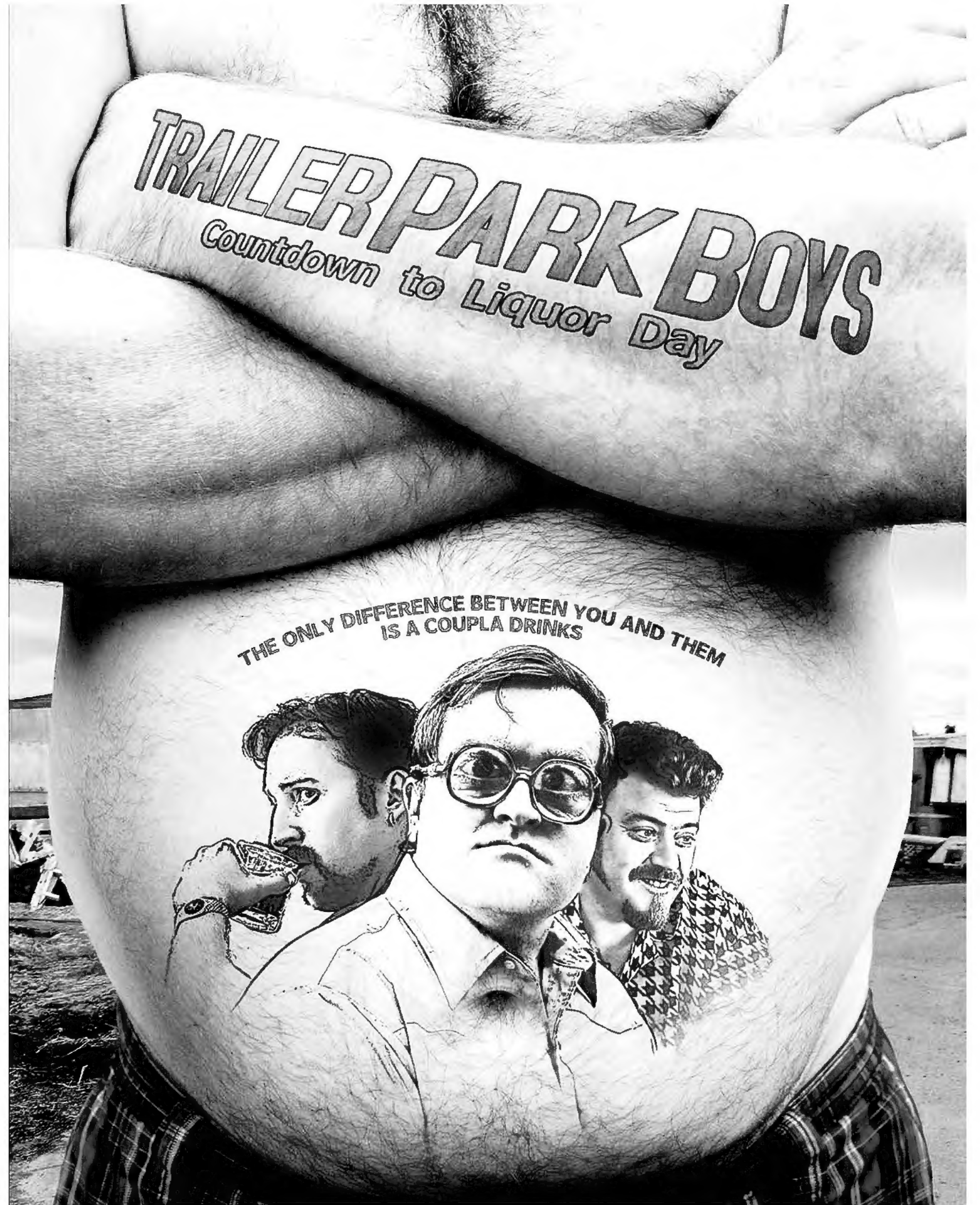
his family to get his grade 12 diploma. Everyone seems to be doing well and leading good lives — but, of course, that would just make for a terrible *Trailer Park Boys* movie.

Sure enough, things turn sour and everyone is back at one another's throats. Bubbles' kitties have been taken away due to neglect, and the boys' return from prison wreaks havoc on everything around them. Guns go off, cars get crushed, and rum and cokes are everywhere.

The characters are the exact same lovable (and hateable) trailer trash from the TV series, even though two years have passed. However, there's very little screen time given to Lucy, Sarah, and Ray, and of course Cory and Trevor are reportedly still in the mental asylum. On the other hand, J-Roc and Tyrone play more important roles, getting directly involved in the new schemes Julian comes up with.

Seeing as the TV series mostly garnered a cult following, if you're going to watch this, you know who you are. A mockumentary like this definitely doesn't cater to everyone, nor does it try to. Although for those who are interested, but haven't had much time to watch the endless collection of the TV series, it may be settling to know that not a lot of back-story is needed to follow along. It would certainly help, of course, to know a little background about everyone and their relationships, but thankfully the story isn't a complete departure from the canon as the first movie was, and ties everything up very nicely.

At a few points, the plot slows down to a crawl, but that's just the beauty of mockumentaries like this. Overall, there's a truckload of immature humour that you'd come to expect from the boys' misadventures. Coupled with bottles upon bottles of vulgarity, fiery explosions, public urination, and devastating destruction, Clattenburg gives us the dirty, greasy, trailer park experience times two.



PETE YEO

THE POET AND THE PhD With only two weeks to do go until he defends his dissertation, Patrick Pilarski is still in good spirits with the release of *Huge Blue*.

Between lab coats and the literary

poetrypreview

Huge Blue Poetry Reading With Patrick Pilarski

Friday, September 25 at 7:30 p.m.
Audreys Books (10702 Jasper Ave.)
Free

SARAH STEAD
Arts & Entertainment Editor

It's impossible to say with certainty whether Patrick Pilarski is left-brained or right-brained. As a prolific poet and PhD candidate in Computer Engineering at the University of Alberta, Pilarski undoubtedly has both hemispheres firing on all cylinders. His most recent literary endeavour is a collection of poems dedicated to the Canadian western landscape entitled *Huge Blue*. And from the way that he lovingly cradles his new volume of poetry in his hands, it's clear that it's a project he's incredibly proud of.

"I think I almost have a blister on my finger from signing so many books," says Pilarski of his book launch, which occurred September 17 at the Kasbar on Whyte Avenue. "[It's] unusual and slightly painful," he laughs.

An avid traveler, Pilarski decided to fuse his passions for the west, the Rocky Mountains, and some urban landscapes with contemporary versions of Japanese poetic forms including tanka, haibun, senryu, and of course, the haiku. While there might not seem to be an immediate connection between foreign poetic forms and a Canadian backdrop, according to Pilarski, the Japanese

styles provided the perfect template for writing about an area of country he found himself so intimately drawn to.

"Traditional haiku was really nature-focused, so it lends itself very well to the Canadian west," Pilarski explains. "Some of the most famous examples of that is the travel writing of Matsuo Basho, who was a Japanese poet, and he did a great job of portraying his journey throughout Japan, and wrote prose segments almost in diary form and combined haiku with that to give it new insight."

At several points during our interview, Pilarski flips through *Huge Blue* to share a few of his favorite haikus. One reads "afterwards / counting / stars," and another, "Shopping carts / rattle in the alley / damp midnight." For those only tangentially acquainted with the form, it seems puzzling that the poems do not adhere to the five-seven-five patterns many of us are familiar with. Part of this is due to translation, says Pilarski, and misunderstandings about how haiku is written in Japan.

"Everyone always says 'oh haiku, that's five-seven-five' but that's really a very large misconception. The Japanese form was built up of 17 sound characters, which don't actually translate to 17 syllables in English. So, because our syllables have varying lengths, 17 syllables in English is much more verbose than you'd find in the Japanese originals," he elaborates.

Pilarski will be defending his dissertation in two weeks — something he says is "terrifying" in comparison with sharing his poems with others. It's a dangerous thing to ask a PhD student to sum

up the research they've devoted the last several years of their life to, but Pilarski takes a breath and gives it a shot.

"My [research] in general is taking medical procedures you normally find in large hospitals and making them accessible to the average public through handheld devices. So, you're taking large-scale medical procedures and shrinking them down to a level where they're cost effective, much more accurate, [and] much more rapid," he says.

And though his academic research and his literary work may seem like disparate entities, Pilarski says he's found that both projects "make each other better."

"The research really informs the way that you experience the world, and the poetry informs the way you attack the research."

So will Pilarski be taking a break once he's finished defending his PhD and promoting *Huge Blue*? Definitely not, he says. In fact, he's already got his sights set on a new collection of poetry called *blackstone/saga*.

"The next project I'm working on is an exploration of modern day Iceland — the people and landscape of Iceland [...] It's very much fragmented and sparse free verse, very much like the landscape of Iceland. It paints a picture of what's happening, but also the rawness of the Icelandic country."

And as for Björk and her infamous swan dress? Well, they're going to have to be muses for a poet other than Pilarski.

"I don't think I have any Björk mentions," he laughs. "There are so many other exciting things about Iceland. I think I'll leave that alone."

Dragonforce attributes recent successes to *Guitar Hero 3*

musicpreview

Dragonforce

With Guests

Wednesday, September 23 at 8 p.m.
Edmonton Events Centre (2556-8882 170 St.)
\$36.50 at ticketmaster.ca

JORDAN BLOEMEN
Arts & Entertainment Writer

"Glorious / forever more in us / we are victorious / and so alive," sings Z.P. Theart on one of the strategically theatrical tracks from Dragonforce's newest album. This kind of cinematic, fantasy-novel undertone is present throughout the London-based band's music — and a word to the hipster throngs, there's no irony to be found here. These guys are serious about their subject and their musical chops.

For those who haven't been introduced, Dragonforce represent the unexpected fusion of '80s video game music and a modern speed metal aesthetic. The result is an almost disconcertingly fast delivery of tight melodies over tumbling double pedal drums, and Theart's grandiose lyricism — and the band is heaving a whole hell of a lot of fun doing it.

Comprised of Z.P. Theart on lead vocals, Herman Li on lead guitar, Sam Totman on rhythm guitar, Frédéric Leclercq on bass, Vadim Pruzhanov on keyboard, and Dave Mackintosh on drums, the band has been playing together for almost 10 years, and in its current incarnation for three years following the addition of Leclercq in 2006.

Ultra Beatdown, the band's fourth studio album, takes few steps away from the already successful formula established over their decade-long run. The melodies are more pronounced, the production significantly tighter, yet the blueprint remains relatively static.

"Well, there's two ways of seeing it," says Frédéric Leclercq, the band's bassist. "We can't really change our style — this is our style, so we can't really come up with an album that's completely different, with

a different sound and different music really. Then again, I think we tried at least to bring some new elements to [the new record]."

The idea itself is relatively simple: it's speed metal with a medieval sheen, sweeping guitar solos that go on for a good 16 bars longer than you'd ever guess, and shocking in-key vocal screeches.

"The name of [our band is from] the Chinese restaurant Herman was working at," Leclercq says with a laugh, quickly back-peddalling. "It started as Dragonheart, but there was a band in Chile or somewhere who were called Dragonheart as well [...] I guess it suits the music somehow."

If Dragonforce set out to dominate whatever crossover exists between the metal and video game industries, there's not much competition in that territory. In addition to their notoriety as a throwback to classic Nintendo melodies, the band discovered a new-found celebrity following their inclusion in the popular *Guitar Hero 3* as a hidden track.

"We get a lot of kids coming to the show with their *Guitar Hero* controllers, or just the actual game for us to sign. We can't just go like 'Fuck you! You have to come with the real CD, bugger off.' It's just like, yeah, cool, whatever. And I think it's done us some good so far," Leclercq says, begrudgingly fielding a question on a topic he's undoubtedly encountered far too many times.

The *Guitar Hero* notoriety is strangely fitting for the band, bearing to mind the presence of classic video game music as a source of inspiration. "I don't know if that's intentional, but I myself definitely grew up with video game music," says Leclercq, mentioning the relevance of a "30-second song that goes in a loop forever" as a source of inspiration in the construction of their sound, one distinguished as "fast, with catchy choruses, and lots of guitars."

With a world tour just starting, a new album recently out, and a fiercely dedicated fan base that's growing steadily, it seems that channelling eight-bit Nintendo hooks into speed metal — while seemingly crazy — has worked out quite well.



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Cuff the Duke scuffs cross Canada

musicpreview

Cuff the Duke

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\$13 at ticketmaster.ca
Free in-store show at Megatunes at 4 p.m.

DUSTIN BLUMHAGEN
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Cuff the Duke have covered the vast expanses of Canada from coast to coast. Their music echoes their travels, both epic in nature and down to earth at the same time. The latest album, *Way Down Here*, was recorded with the infamous Greg Keelor in his rural barn studio. As Cuff the Duke vocalist Wayne Petti says, "you kind of get a different vibe because the environment really influences how it's going to sound."

Way Down Here could be the Canadian counterpart to the Black Crowes' latest album, which was also recorded in a barn and focuses on taking things back to a more organic sound. Petti states that the record was a result of a more laid back, casual process due to different environment.

The band arose from Oshawa, before relocating to Toronto in 2002 and has supported indie music darlings like the Weakerthans and Sloan as they cut their teeth putting on numerous cross country miles. As they tour in support of their latest album, they're showcasing a new sound for the band. Wayne Petti describes it as a "little more simple, just more traditional" sounding, with acoustic guitars, organs, and a haunting pedal steel. The new sound, a step away from their indie roots, raises the question of whether the band has become the next alt-country sensation. Petti humbly accepts the praise, expressing his gratitude and obvious pleasure, especially the current dubbing of the band as a modern-day Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young by the critics. But listening to the first



track of the new album, "You Were Right," it's impossible to deny the strength of the comparison between the two.

Wayne Petti is an avid road warrior, who, along with his band, creates music that relates to the listener's national identity. At one moment, they may evoke images of travelling a long, lonely stretch of prairie highway, and then at the next, they take the reader to the edge of the cold ocean with a brisk, sharp tune. He stresses the importance of the environment during recording process, relating the outcome of the recording process to where the band has been immersing itself. That said, a touring band like Cuff the Duke that's travelled our diverse country many times would reflect the beauty of this land in their music.

"Canada's home, so of course we work it the most and tour here the most. It's always fun to do that. It's great to play for our fellow Canadians," says Petti.

And Petti doesn't discount the relationship between nationality and the audience, stating, "I think that fans sometimes tap into Canadian bands cause of a sense of pride that they have."

Victoria Martin adds up stereotypes

theatrereview

Victoria Martin: Math Team Queen

Written by Kathryn Walat
Directed by Trevor Schmidt
Starring Melanie Piatocha, Cole Humeny,
Richard Lee Hsi, Jason Chinn, and Branden Martin
Runs September 17-27 at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday matinee at 2:00 p.m.
Varscona Theatre (10329-83 Ave.)
\$15-25 at northernlighttheatre.com

KIRSTEN GORUK
Arts & Entertainment Staff

"There are so many geeks here, I think I might just be one of them," is a realization that hits a little too close to home for Melaine Piatocha's character in Northern Light Theatre's 34th season-opening show, *Victoria Martin: Math Team Queen*.

Victoria Martin is the third-most popular sophomore at her high school, and her life consists of cell phone chats with her cheerleading friends Jen and Jen, watching her equally popular boyfriend show off his skills on the basketball court, and generally enjoying her place on the high-school food chain.

But all of that familiarity is quickly turned on its head when playwright Kathryn Walat throws in some good old high-school drama and plops Victoria onto the math team with a bunch of, well, math geeks. At the time, the all-male team is still reeling from the recent loss of their star mathematical genius and are, if it's possible, even less enthused about the situation than she is.

It all sounds a little played out, but what this show has to offer its audience stretches beyond the usual lessons of an after-school special. Through the utilization of a simplistic set, some great mood lighting, and few well-placed sound effects, the cast of *Victoria Martin* is given the perfect backdrop for telling their individual and collective stories. With costumes that anyone

recently out of high school would recognize — including trends like flashy belts, ballet flats, leggings, and polo shirts — the seemingly stereotypical characters slowly evolve on stage as they share their experiences with the audience and each other.

The use of individual spotlights and frequent soliloquies delivered directly to the audience creates a window into the lives of each character. This sense of privilege and secret knowledge fosters a closer connection with each student as they struggle to deal with the pressures of high school, whether that entails school work, friendships, or romantic entanglements.

For Victoria, the classic gum-chewing, hair-flipping, dumb blonde stereotype is actually an outer shell which acts to hide her own personal troubles with family, friends, and her secret love of quadratic equations. While Piatocha masters the art of speaking "valley girl," she also brings a vulnerable and endearing quality to her character. As Victoria struggles with her double life, the members of the math team also find themselves in transition.

Richard Lee's portrayal of Max is heartwarming, as his journey of self-discovery is both entertaining and thought provoking. And amidst all of the jumbled relationships, Branden Martin almost steals the show as Jimmy, an adorably geeky and awkward freshman with obvious momma's boy syndrome.

Each time an actor stepped into the spotlight and eyed the crowd as they spoke, the nostalgia of high school wafted through the theatre. Their navigation of a world where everything is constantly changing feels real and honest without leaving a hokey aftertaste in your mouth.

Victoria Martin: Math Team Queen captures the spirit of high school, complete with pranks, origami notes, basketball state finals, and math meets, as it explores those age old stereotypes and expertly avoids the trap of a cliché. After all, the number of super popular girls in high school who know 52 digits of *pi* are probably pretty slim.

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Like anything, PAX has bad seeds

JAMES
LEASK



The Penny Arcade Expo (or PAX, as it's known to most) is the largest video-game convention in North America. Started in 2004 by Jerry Holkins and Mike Krahulik, the creators of the web comic *Penny Arcade*, the event initially started with a modest 3,300 attendees, but has exploded to dominate the entire Washington State Convention and Trade Center in downtown Seattle, Washington with estimates of 75,000 attendees at PAX09, which took place from September 4–6.

As the largest event of its kind on the continent, PAX has become, in many ways, a home for the North American gaming community. Major game developers showcase upcoming titles to build hype, and the entire weekend — from legendary developer Ron Gilbert's keynote speech, to the two nights of nerd-oriented musical performances, to the multitude of discussion panels — is designed towards creating a sense of community and belonging amongst gamers.

The bulk of the panels, from actor/writer Wil Wheaton's ruminations on important moments in his life, to UBC psychiatrist Dr. Tyler Black's enlightened discussion on children, psychiatry, and video games, did an admirable job of engaging the community, through both laughter and serious debate. However, no community is without its less palatable members, and they were also present at PAX alongside everyone else. Titled "Sex in Videogames: A Comparative

Study," the panel by Nathan Paine and Japanese game importers Pink Gorilla was touted as a legitimate comparison of sexual materials in North American and Japanese video games. However, immediately after the panel began, attendees were presented with a "guess the video game sex scene" competition hosted by "Hard Gay," a PVC-clad man whose only roles were to, in this order: prance, stick his rear end in people's faces, and yell.

After numerous technical difficulties, the body of their panel started with a history of sex in North American videogames and comparisons with Japan. Their verdict? Japan's liberated sexual culture is far preferable to North America's sexual culture. Japanese "love hotels," "compensated dating," (a practice where schoolgirls sell sexual favors to older businessmen) and video games centred around raping virtual women, all featured prominently in the panel's presentation.

Where Dr. Black carefully dissected statistics to show how to avoid being deceived by "noisemakers," the panelists from Pink Gorilla eagerly spouted numbers to argue that these "liberated" sexual attitudes could reduce sex crimes, without any concern for causation or alternate possibilities.

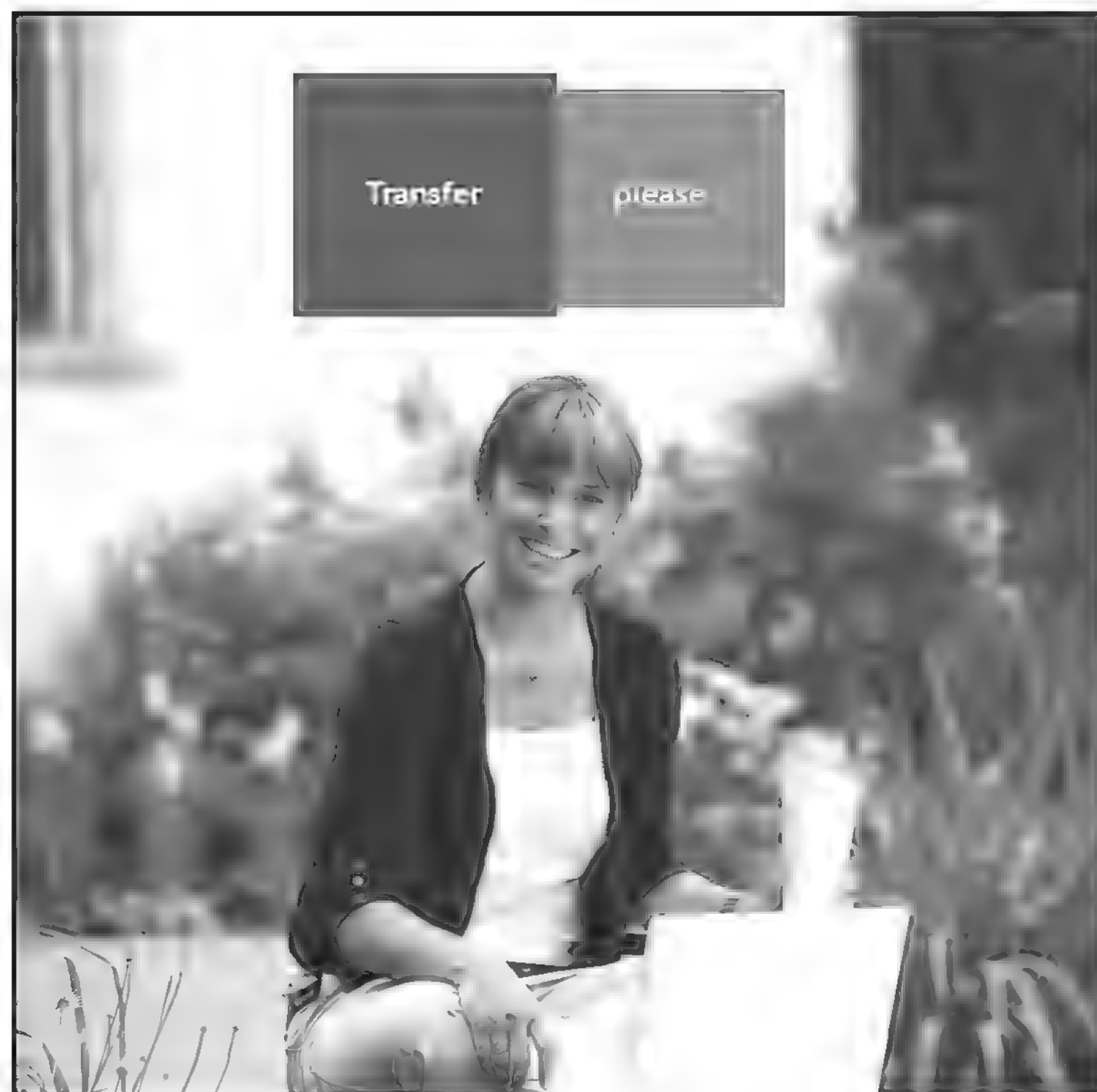
To say this thesis shocked me would be an understatement. Gamers periodically attract the stigma of the creepy, sexually frustrated loser, and surely I've met a few that I would categorize like this. However, I'd rarely seen anything approaching this disturbing level before. The closest I'd come to hearing things like this, truly, was listening to group therapy sessions of convicted sex offenders years ago as an intern.

Watching the panel proceed, I became increasingly uncomfortable. How would the audience react? I grew

worried that Pink Gorilla would be met with warm applause and pleasant comments, that I would finally discover this seedy underbelly of the gaming community I'd been sold by what I thought were misguided news anchors for years. If that happened, I started to think, I wouldn't be able to really enjoy the rest of my PAX experience.

Somebody stood up. "I don't mean to come off as rude," a young man interjected, "but what are your credentials? Who are you to be giving this panel? What's the point of it?" The panelists declined to give an answer about their credentials. At this point, audience members started leaving, and by the time the formal question period started, only half remained. Almost every question cut into the panelists. One person asked about the lack of any women on the panel. A few more repeated the question of what the point of the panel was trying to make. Nobody was rude. In fact, everybody was exceedingly polite in their questioning — except for the panelists, that is, who with each question seemed more curt and defeated. Along the way, I discovered that their only expertise was that they owned an import games store, and that one of them lived in Japan for an indeterminate amount of time. At the end, many people simply left the room instead of applauding.

This, I began to realize, was where the heart of the gaming community lies. The audience wasn't comfortable with the idea of compensated dating or rape video games. The wholesale rejection of the panelists' ideas reinvigorated me, and I left the panel more appreciative than ever of the videogame community and comfortable to be a part of it. Oddly enough, this despicable panel helped me find the connection PAX promises.



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albumreview

Raekwon

Only Built 4 Cuban Linx ... PT 2
EMI

JEFF NOEL

Arts & Entertainment Writer

It's been almost 15 years since Wu-Tang Clan's Raekwon dropped one of the defining gangster-rap masterpieces, *Only Built 4 Cuban Linx ...*, and it seems very little has changed for the Chef over the years. After two disappointing follow-up records, Raekwon returns to the title and concept that brought his greatest acclaim with its sequel, and while the results aren't particularly original,

they're steady and strong. Few fans of Wu-Tang bangers or rhymes about the shady side of life should come away disappointed.

Featuring solid beats provided by Wu-Master RZA among the record's many producers, there's also reliable backup from Rae's *de facto* sidekick Ghostface, and appearances by Method Man, GZA, Masta Killa, and Inspectah Deck, along with a

beautiful tribute track to the late Ol' Dirty Bastard. Any fan of the Clan will feel very at home here. Posse cuts "House of Flying Daggers," "New Wu," and "Mean Streets" would be welcome additions to any late era Wu record or pumped-up party.

Across 22 tracks, Raekwon weaves rhyme after rhyme of criminal poetry, making another free-associative trip into the underworld where guns, drugs, and your crew are the prime concerns, and death could come at any moment.

His ambitions are strictly genre-specific, and as a mob-movie about the crack game it's no *Scarface*, or *Only Built 4 Cuban Linx ...* for that matter, but it's an entertaining attempt from some of hip-hop's legends and worth a listen.



albumreview

Ko

Let's Blaze
Castle Hill Records

DAVE CHUNG

Arts & Entertainment Writer

Ko's debut LP *Let's Blaze* is packed with witty, original singles worthy of mainstream airplay, and the album is never boring. An occasional collaborator with Snoop Dogg (Ko toured with the rapper earlier this month), he combines strong vocals and a folk-country-rock feel with booming beats and a subtle hip-hop swagger.

The delicate fusion of rock and hip-hop has been done poorly more

often than it's been done well, but *Let's Blaze* definitely belongs in the latter category.

However, the problem with *Let's Blaze* is that it never finds a coherent voice. The album wanders between introspective lamentations of the pitfalls of substance abuse and full-blown tributes to getting high.

It mirrors Ko's own admitted problems with drugs and rehab — the usual sob stories of self-loathing

drug habits, and the rock and roll lifestyle.

Ko would've been best served to save the stories of his personal struggle with drug abuse for a sophomore concept album.

While it makes for an interesting, albeit cliché, background history, it makes for a cumbersome debut. It's difficult to take an album (and an artist) seriously when each successive track completely contradicts the previous one, whether the gesture is symbolic or not.

On the surface, the album is solid. Each song is catchy and well-produced; you're hard-pressed to find any really bad tracks. But the contradictory irony of a drug addict's life is lost in translation in the album, makes *Let's Blaze* feel more like hypocrisy than cleverness.

STUDIO THEATRE

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 by Wajdi Mouawad
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Horwood highlights

In a night full of comical pot-shots, here's a look at just a few of our favourites:

"Don played at Memorial University, played on the basketball team. As a 5-11 power forward, Don had several strikes against him. He was slow, physically and mentally — when his coach told him to haul ass, he had to make two trips."

Dr. Garry Smith,
Bears basketball coach from 1976-79

"I'm especially delighted to hear that Ken Shields is there to honour you tonight. And I'm a little bit surprised, though, Don, given the fact that you've stabbed him in the back so many times to me over the years — but apparently bygones are now bygones!"

Gord Miller,
NHL on TSN commentator

"I'm here for a lot of reasons — other than to complete the community service portion of my sentence — but I'm not going to roast Don Horwood [...] What I can say is that Don is a regular guy — and at his age, regular takes on a whole new meaning."

Leo Rautins,
Canadian Basketball head coach

"This is a man so conceited that he calls his own name during orgasm."

Bob Stauffer,
Edmonton Oilers colour commentator

For more highlights from the Don Horwood Roast and Toast, check out thegatewayonline.ca/sports

Horwood roast a roaring success

A cast of roasters helped raise funds for the Bear basketball program with some laughs



PETE YEE

HONOURING DON Horwood was a mainstay on the sideline for 26 years.

NICK FROST
Managing Editor

class and a constant professional. [...] It's only disappointing that tonight is not one of those nights."

"It's only once in a lifetime where one gets both the opportunity to honour and pay tribute to such a truly outstanding person — an individual who has risen to the very top of his profession; an epitome of

It's perhaps these words written by Golden Bears coaching alumnus Dr. Gerry Glassford that best sum up the Don Horwood Roast and Toast on Friday night at the University of Alberta's Main Gym.

Colleagues, family, and friends alike came together to both honour and lambaste the recently retired 26-year men's basketball bench boss on a night filled with anecdotes, kind words, and no shortage of light-hearted jabs all in support of raising funds for the Bears basketball program — one that Horwood led to three national titles.

With Global TV's John Sexsmith serving as roastmaster, the festivities kicked off with Edmonton councillor Bryan Anderson declaring September 18, 2009 as "Don Horwood Day" in the city, followed by Edmonton Oilers' President Patrick LaForge presenting Horwood with his own honorary copper and blue jersey.

Former Bears basketball assistant coach Murray Scambler — who also retired at the end of the 2008/09 season — had one of the more heartfelt speeches of the evening, providing a retrospective of Horwood life and career, and the years that the two spent working side by side.

"I'm going to make a proclamation: tonight, this is Horwood hardwood. This is somewhere where we can celebrate a man whose [purpose] all his adult life has been to coach basketball," Scambler said. "And he will join [...] coach [Clare] Drake here and [...] Billy [Moores] — Don will now be an icon here at the University of Alberta in terms of coaching."

Once the roasting portion of the evening commenced, the proverbial gloves came off, with jokes directed at numerous individuals in attendance. The dais was headlined by notable names like LaForge, Canadian basketball head coach Leo Rautins, Order of Canada recipient

Ken Shields, and former Bears basketball coach Dr. Garry Smith, with pre-taped messages from Oilers colour commentator Bob Stauffer and NHL on TSN play-by-play man Gord Miller.

Many of the popular targets for humour included Don Horwood's fashion sense and alleged narcissism, Canada basketball's recent lack of success, and Sexsmith, who was described as "Bryan Hall light."

"At the University of Victoria, three national championships aren't that big of a deal. I flew in today with the UVic field hockey team — their coach has 11 national championships. And they're having a damn night for you here!" Shields joked. "I mean, this is unbelievable — you go 3-for-26, and they have a night for you!"

"They announced they were going to have a night for you, and the President of the University immediately calls a whole-scale retreat [...] Even [Dean of Phys. Ed. Mike] Mahon is gone; he didn't even stay for the damn roast!"

Not lost in all of the verbal wisecracking, however, was everyone's appreciation for a man who leaves his legacy as one of the longest serving head coaches in U of A Athletics history. With the prospect of retirement ahead, and his wife and two sons at his side, it was perhaps Rautins who delivered the most fitting send-off.

"We're judged by a lot of different things in our lives, but when your family sits next to you — and a beautiful family like you have — that are proud to be here and show their respect, you know you've accomplished something even greater than the wins you have on the court."



PAUL SWANSON

HEADS UP The Bears controlled the play for the most part against UVic Sunday.

Vickery's crew continue strong play with another four-point weekend

EVAN DAUM
Sports Editor

It was another strong weekend for the Bears soccer team as they downed the Fraser Valley Cascades 2-0, and then played the number-four ranked Victoria Vikes to a 1-1 draw at Foote Field over the weekend.

Alberta came into the two game set ranked seventh in the nation after a solid pair of games to open the season against the UBC Thunderbirds and Trinity Western Spartans. The Green and Gold earned a victory over the T-Birds and a draw against TWU in week one action.

The Bears followed a similar script in their second regular season set, as the team managed another win to start the weekend and followed that victory up with a strong draw against a fellow nationally ranked squad.

Saturday saw the Bears blank the Cascades 2-0, as Cameron Schmidt potted his second of the season and Zenon Markevych also found the back of the net in the second half after a scoreless first. Keeper Jaswinder Gill continued his strong play early in the

season for Alberta as he recorded his second shutout of the campaign with a three-save performance to cement the win.

"All credit to Jas and the defence for keeping them at bay and it was good to see us finally put that second goal in, albeit in the 90th minute," head coach Len Vickery explained.

The Bears welcomed the number-four ranked team in the country to Foote Field Sunday as Victoria rolled into town. The Vikes came in fresh off a 3-2 victory over the Saskatchewan Huskies a day earlier in Saskatoon.

"We said following the [first] game that if we play the way we did against Fraser Valley, which was subpar, we would have difficulty against Victoria. Fortunately, the intensity, the effort was raised for the game against Victoria."

The Vikes opened the scoring early in the match off Bears defender Harman Braich, who deflected a crossing ball into his own net, with the goal being credited to Vikes forward Jordie Oberg.

"It was a quality ball that they put in from the right side that had

us defending from the back post," Vickery explained. "Those are exactly the types of cross that are going to cause teams problems. We talk about it, we try and produce those similar type of crosses — they did and we weren't up to the task on that particular play."

Despite the tough break, the Bears managed to fight back and tie the contest just over 10 minutes later when Milan Timotijevic scored from Zenon Markevych to even the match at 1-1.

The two teams then played a scoreless second half, playing to an eventual draw.

The youthful Bears continued their strong start to the season with two more quality matches against two more teams from west of the Rockies, and in all likelihood should see their stock stay strong or even rise in the CIS Top-ten poll this week.

With the win and draw, Alberta sits in second place in the Canada West standings with a 2-0-2 mark, tied with Trinity Western at eight points, and two points behind first-place Victoria.



PAUL SWANSON

REACHING FOR THE WIN The Pandas were looking for revenge against the Vikes, but settled with a loss and a tie.

Field Hockey start season with a single point weekend against UVic

Pandas drop opener and settle for a draw in the tail-end of a two-game set

EMERSON CSORBA
Sports Writer

Defense was the story during the Alberta Pandas conference home openers. Following two hard-fought battles against the reigning CIS champion Victoria Vikes, the Pandas emerged with a 0–1–1 record. On Saturday, the Pandas fell 1–0 to their B.C. rivals, while in the rematch, both teams played to a scoreless draw.

For Pandas’ rookie head coach A.J. Facendi, the start to the season was auspicious.

“It’s a good start, obviously we’re looking to win and improve, but we’ve got some good things to build on and some good things to fix,” Facendi pointed out.

In game one, the Pandas failed to overcome a lackadaisical first half. Fifth-year Vike and current national team standout Natalie Wise capitalized on a turnover to net the lone goal of the match.

“We definitely weren’t sharp in the first half, our basics were sloppy, we were slow. I think we just had a case of the jitters.”

Following the first half, the Pandas’ overall play enhanced significantly.

“Second half, I think we definitely turned it around. That game was definitely still in our hands at half,”

Facendi explained. The few Victoria opportunities that followed were neutralized by Pandas’ second-year netminder Tory Spencer. “She was solid,” Facendi com-

“It’s a good start, obviously we’re looking to win and improve, but we’ve got some good things to build on and some good things to fix.”

A.J. FACENDI
PANDAS FIELD HOCKEY HEAD COACH

mented. “She was sharp; all the rest of us need to sharpen up.”

Midway through the second frame, Alberta came inches from knotting the game at ones. On a rapid counter-attack, rookie forward Sarah Mackie sent a bouncing ball across the crease to second-year Dana Morch, who narrowly missed potting her first goal of the season.

In game two, the Pandas picked up where they left off.

From start to finish, Alberta

dominated the Vikes. With 18 minutes remaining in the first half, the Pandas forced three consecutive penalty corners, but were unable to find the twine.

The highlight of the first half occurred when sophomore defender and former Canada West Rookie of the Year Jackie Trautman came in one-on-one against Victoria keeper Kaitlyn Williams. Trautman attempted to roof the ball over Williams, but was turned aside with the blocker save.

While the second match progressed, Victoria created chances intermittently, with Wise factoring heavily. The Vikes best chance of the game came midway through the first half on a partial breakaway, when Wise outran her defender but sent a shot wide of the net.

Facendi looked confident and composed in her first series as head coach. Her outlook on the season is just as positive.

“It’s not like [Victoria] is out of our reach in any way.”

Based on the Pandas relative youth and strong showing against Canada West powerhouse Victoria, favourable outcomes should be on their way.

Next weekend, Alberta faces off against the University of Calgary Dinosaurs, who fell to 0–2 after their Canada West openers.


FIELD NOTES

• The meeting between the Pandas and Vikes was a rematch of last season’s CIS national final that saw the Vikes down the Pandas by a score of 2–1 in Langley, B.C.. It was Vic’s record tying 11th national title.

• Saturday was interim head coach AJ Facendi’s first game patrolling the sidelines for the Green and Gold. Facendi worked under head coach Carla Duncan over the past three seasons as an assistant. Duncan is currently on maternity leave.

• The Pandas and Vikes next meeting will be in less than a month when the Pandas travel to the west coast to take on Vic from October 10–11 in the second and final regular season series against last year’s champs.

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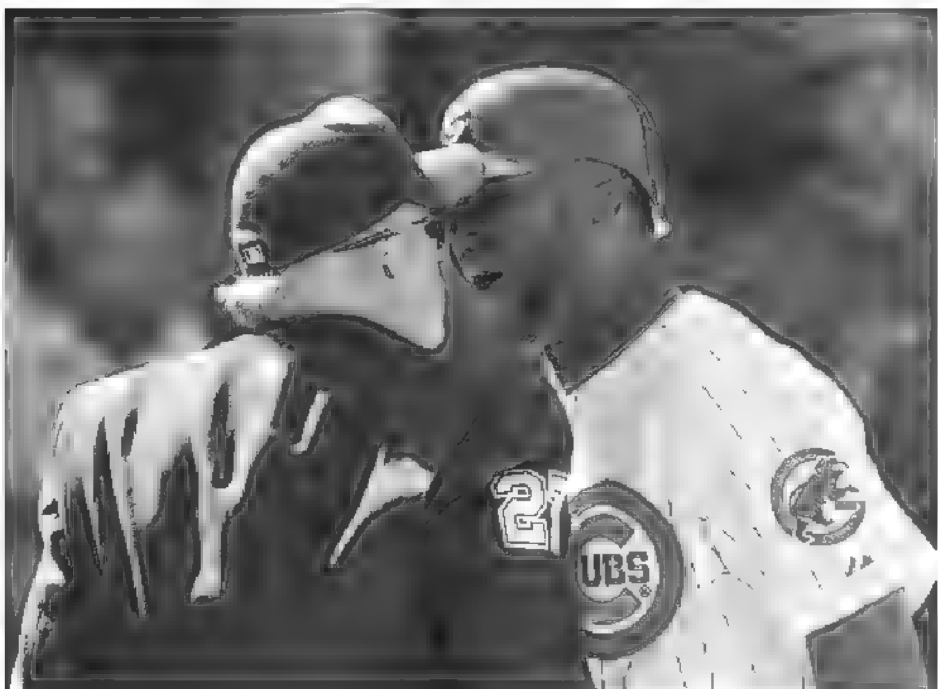
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THIS WEEK'S SPORTS FLOP



Perennial pain in the backside Milton Bradley is up to his old antics again, publicly calling out his team, the Chicago Cubs in a recent newspaper interview. Bradley has been suspended for the rest of the season by the lovable losers and may be headed out of the Windy City come season’s end. Now, we’re all for a good newspaper interview — it’s what we do — so if you want to learn how to get that exclusive interview, come to a sports meeting every Thursday on the third floor of SUB at 4 p.m.

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Tweeting athletes are tiresome

Reading about multi-millionaires' trivial daily events is ridiculous

JORDAN
HARTSHORN



The Sheaf (CUP)

When NBA players started flocking to Twitter, there was no need to abate my excitement. Giving pro athletes a global megaphone was somewhere between sleeping with spiders and peeing into the wind on my to-do list.

I wasn't surprised by how banal most of the players were: Miami's Dwyane Wade never seems to stop playing with his kids, and those who attended college make note of the happenings of their alma maters' sports teams. Whenever any of them writes "life is good," I can't help but feel like they're ignorant. Of course life is good — you make millions!

The sports world doesn't lack for platitudes, and tweeting players are not afraid to whip those out when life brings them a dilemma bigger than "What should I eat tonight, tweeps?"

Take the Detroit Pistons' Charlie Villanueva, for example. He offered this quote by Elie Wiesel, a Holocaust survivor, after he and the Dominican Republic national basketball team were eliminated from world championship contention: "There are victories of the soul and spirit. Sometimes, even if you lose, you win."

Villanueva's use of the quote was a historical first: never before has a sports loss been publicly juxtaposed with one man's experience in the Auschwitz concentration camp.

Some praise players' use of Twitter as offering the fans unlimited access to the game, but, as expected, the insight goes

no further than the same hackneyed answers players offer sideline reporters.

Not to pick on Charlie again, but he was one of the first players to tweet during an NBA halftime. His commentary, aside from getting him reprimanded, was essentially useless: "In da locker room, snuck to post my twitt. We're playing the Celtics, tie ball game at da half. Coach wants more toughness. I gotta step up."

Some praise players' use of Twitter as offering fans unlimited access to the game, but, as expected, the insight goes no further than the same hackneyed answers players offer sideline reporters.

Even Shaquille O'Neal, the court jester of the NBA and one the most followed people on Twitter, lacks panache in his 140 characters. People often forget that the joy of Shaq's character comes from his willingness to goof off during a press conference, an arena most athletes reserve for clichés and canned lines.

As a result, I feel as disconnected from the players as ever. Heck, as I'm writing this, New Orleans Hornet Julian Wright is posting about his frustration when valets fail to put his car seat in its proper place.

Yet when I look past the awful syntax, their references to spending millions, and their poor attempts at humour, there's something charming about the realism in their Twitter existences.

It's amusing to read about Houston

Rocket Pops Mensah-Bonsu's struggle to operate his television in a Polish hotel, only to post two minutes later, sheepishly, that he had neglected to activate the power in his room with his key card, as required in most hotels. Then there's Rudy Gay of the Memphis Grizzlies and New Orleans' Chris Paul both agonizing over the fact that their favourite show *Entourage* wouldn't be airing that week.

Too often, sports figures get wrapped in myths of grandeur due to their abilities in their sports, so it's refreshing to see them invoking such everyday concerns.

The older generation of NBA players haven't flocked to Twitter as readily as the youth. Even when the veterans do punch up a sentence or two, it's generally done in a serious, business-like manner.

The youngsters offer a more unfiltered zest to their posts. There's former Atlanta Hawks forward Josh Childress, now playing in Greece, whose Twitter account doubles as both a basketball diary and a travel journal. In the past, he would have vanished from the basketball world until he returned to American soil. Instead, the fan gets to go along for the ride and chart Childress' progress. Anecdotes like Childress playfully chiding a new American teammate for attempting to order American-styled cuisine in Athens makes subscribing to his feed worthwhile.

For better or worse, fans now get to experience the growth and maturation of the young players first-hand. Previously, the growth and maturity of a player used to be restricted to the court, but now players' growing pains are on full display.

It's as close as the fan is going to get to the life of a pro, without the perception of the athlete being filtered by a media spokesperson.

sportsshots

Compiled by Evan Daum

Bears Football

The Bears football team travelled to Burnaby, B.C. this weekend in search of their first win of the season and that's exactly what they accomplished in a 28-16 win over the Simon Fraser Clan.

Alberta came into the weekend after two close losses: one to UBC to open the season a little over two weeks ago, followed by a loss to provincial rival Calgary in the second weekend of the Canada West season.

The Bears opened up the scoring on their first offensive series of the game on a 15-yard touchdown pass. The Green and Gold took a 15-7 lead into half — a lead they would not surrender en route to the teams first win of the season.

Bears standout wide receiver Mike Wasylyniuk lead the way offensively with two receiving touchdowns, while running back Matt Jarvis also punched it into the endzone. Hugh O'Neill added two field goals to cap Alberta's scoring.

Both Bears quarterbacks saw action as Quade Armstrong got the start and went 11-17 with a touchdown and interception, while Julian Marchand went 5-10 also with a touchdown and interception.

The Bears will now look forward to an even tougher test this coming weekend against the always talented Saskatchewan Huskies at Foote Field

as both teams will meet for the first time this season.

Saskatchewan was idle this past weekend, while the other Canada West team in the top-10, the Calgary Dinos, managed a decisive 41-15 win over the Regina Rams in the Queen City. The Huskies' and Dinos' national rankings didn't change from last week as the Dogs remain ranked number-three and the Dinos number-four.

Pandas Soccer

After a disappointing opening weekend that saw the Pandas soccer team drop both games at home, head coach Liz Jensen's crew bounced back with a pair of wins on the road this weekend, defeating the Regina Cougars 6-1 Saturday in the Queen City, and then managed a 2-1 win over the Manitoba Bisons Sunday in Winnipeg.

Heather Lund led the charge Saturday in Regina with a pair of goals, and Amanda Black added a goal and two assists of her own to propel the Pandas to the lopsided win over the Cougars.

Alberta then made their way down the Trans-Canada Highway to square off against the Bisons. Black was once again a major factor for the Pandas, as she potted a goal to go along with midfielder Lindsay Stewart's marker to lift the Pandas to the weekend sweep.

With the two wins, the Pandas improved their record to 2-2-0, good for six points, putting them three points behind a pack of leaders which includes Victoria, Trinity Western, and Manitoba who all sit at 9 points in the

Canada West conference standings.

Black CW Athlete of the Week

Amanda Black was named the Canada West Athlete of the Week for the week ending this past Sunday, September 20.



ANDY DEVLIN/LA MEDIA

The Pandas soccer striker had an outstanding weekend as she put up four points on the two game road swing through Regina and Winnipeg. Black was a major catalyst for the Pandas who put up a total of eight goals over the weekend. Black, a nursing student, led the team last season in rookie scoring with six goals.

Bears Volleyball

The Bears volleyball squad started their preseason schedule this past Wednesday with a straight-sets victory over the Team Canada Masters team. The Masters team was comprised of alumni from both the university and national levels in Canada, and faced the Bears for the second straight year.

Alberta won by scores of 25-20, 25-11, and 25-21 respectively.



BODY BLOW Bears forward Chad Klassen (right) was part of a Bears offensive attack that put up five goals both nights.

Bears solid in pair of Brick wins

NATHAN LIEWICKI
Sports Writer

The 25th annual Golden Bears Brick Invitational was held at Clare Drake Arena over the weekend. Making its return after a two-year hiatus, the tournament gave the Bears hockey team their first look of the season at some Canada West opponents.

A 5–1 Bears victory over the Regina Cougars on Friday night was followed up on Saturday with a hard-fought 5–2 win over conference rivals, the University of Saskatchewan Huskies. Although these preseason games don't carry any major implications, the Bears proved that they'll once again be a force to be reckoned with when they open up conference play in early October.

"Our guys take a lot of pride in going out and playing against the [Cougars] and the Huskies," Bears Head Coach Eric Thurston commented.

Against the Cougars, fourth-year forward Chad Klassen opened up the scoring at 5:47 of the first period when he deposited a loose puck at the side of the net past goaltender Brant Hilton. The Bears took hold of the early momentum against Regina en route to a 3–0 lead after the opening period and never relinquished it.

Alberta also got goals from Sean Ringrose, Ian McDonald, Colin Joe, and Reade Wolansky. McDonald had three points on the night and was named the game's MVP. Bears goaltender Real Cyr was sharp when called upon, finishing the game with 27 saves. Matthew Rintoul, meanwhile, had the lone goal for the Cougars.

As much as the Bears came out with tons of energy against Regina, they looked a little sluggish in the opening 20 minutes against the Huskies.

"Both teams looked like they were trying to find their legs early on and get a feel for the game," Thurston

pointed out. The cycle game, which wasn't featured often by the Cougars, was used effectively by the Huskies to get the Bears into some trouble in the defensive zone, resulting in some early Alberta penalties.

"We had a tough time handling the speed and skill of the Huskies," Thurston remarked. "They brought in three guys and did their pass-and-gos and pass-and-gos and that caused us some trouble. We need to finish our checks."

Early in the second period, it was clear that the Alberta had found their legs. There was an increased energy level inside the arena and the home side started to play the body. The result was a trio of goals by the Bears and a com-

"Our goalie outplayed their goalie — Yonkman is the reason why we came out with the win."

ERIC THURSTON
BEARS HOCKEY HEAD COACH

manding 4–1 edge after two periods. The Huskies responded by peppering goaltender Travis Yonkman with a bonanza of shots, but his play was terrific in recording 36 saves. "Our goalie outplayed their goalie," Thurston noted. "Yonkman is the big reason why we came out with the win." Special teams were also a strong contributing factor in the Bears' win over the Huskies; they were two for six on the power play and a perfect six for six on the penalty kill.

If the Bears can continually have offensive outbursts and stellar goaltending during Canada West play, a chance at another Conference Championship should be in the cards.

BRICK RESULTS

FRIDAY, SEPT. 18



5



1

AB Goals: Chad Klassen, Sean Ringrose, Ian McDonald, Colin Joe, Reade Wolansky
RG Goals: Matt Rintoul

SATURDAY, SEPT. 19



5



2

AB Goals: Chad Klassen, Ian McDonald, Sean Ringrose, Tyler Metcalfe, Sean Ringrose
SK Goals: Michael Kaye, David Linsley

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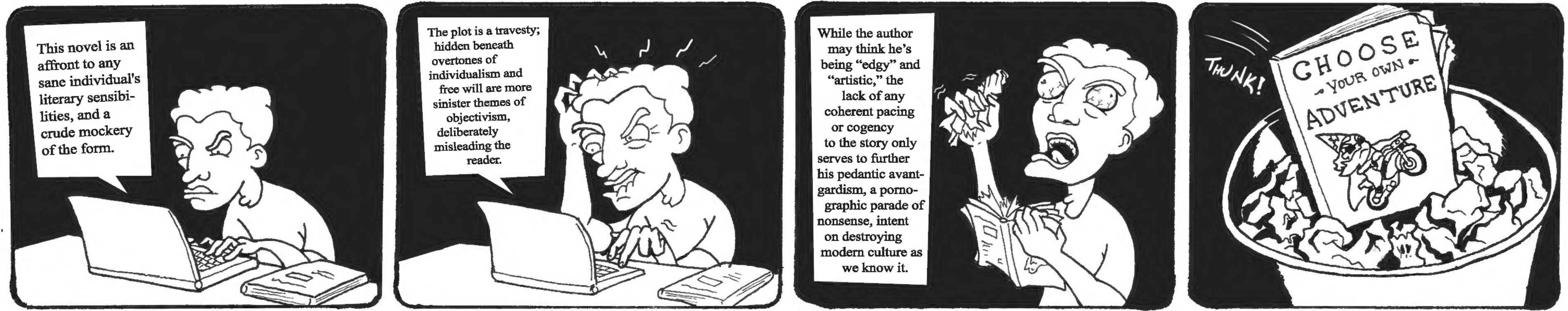


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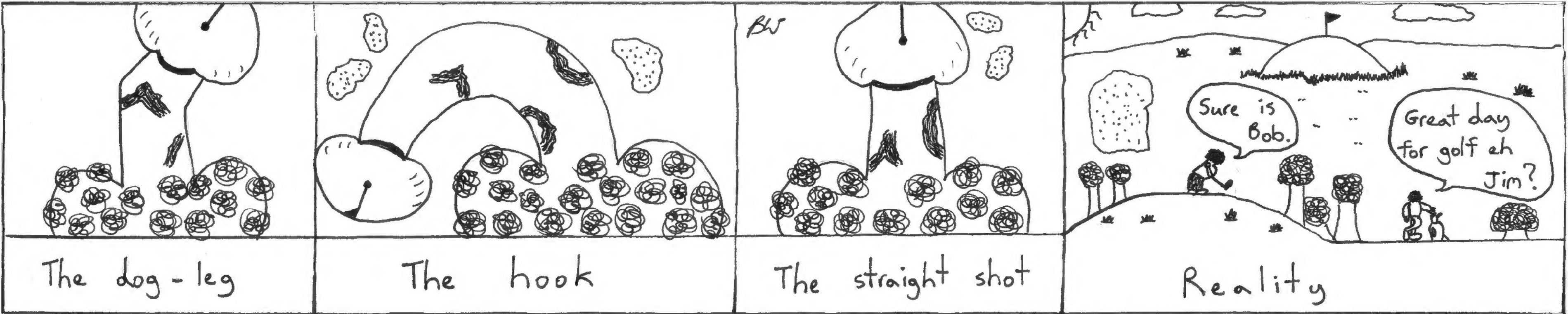
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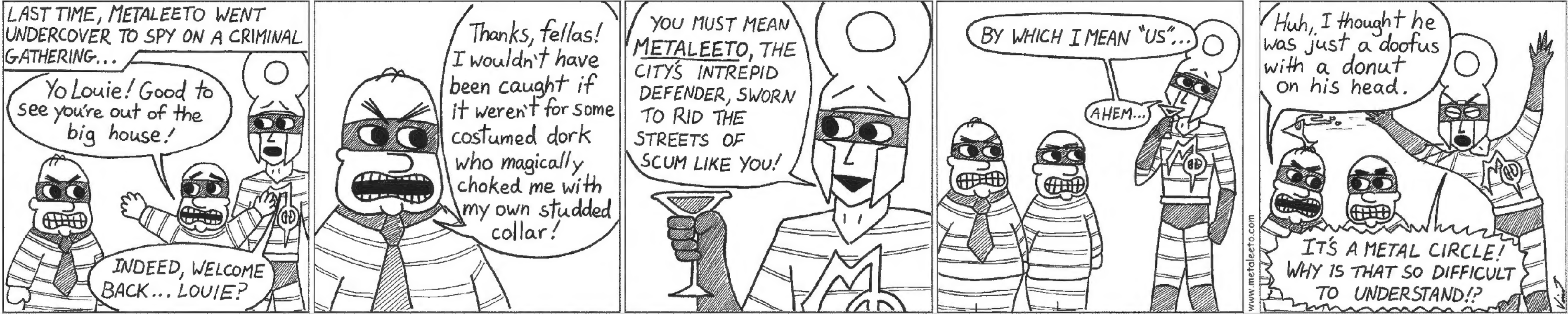
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THE H. G. WELLS OF SOULS

Truly, the universe cannot be said to be infinite — for anything infinite is in and of itself inconceivable, and thus fails to possess existence. Happy birthday, Hubert George. Here's hoping there's starlight where you are.

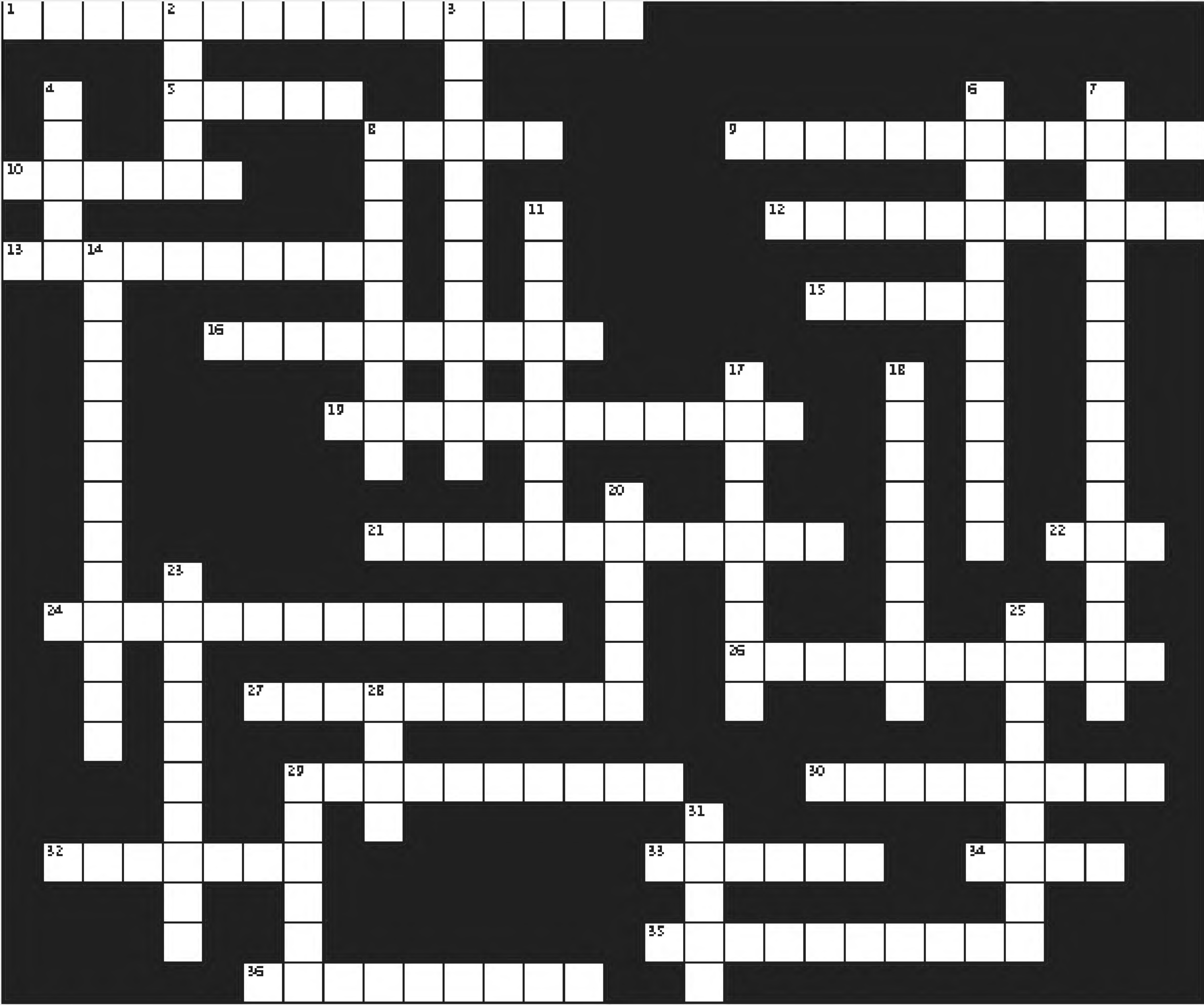
crossword

The Fruits of Your Labours
by David Johnston

The Crossword runs semi-regu-
larly with the answer available at
www.thegatewayonline.ca

Across

- 1. He stuck in his thumb and pulled out a plum.
- 5. Anagram of 2 Down.
- 8. The lesser-known name of the Raisin Bran mascot.
- 9. Famous cocktail with cranberry and lime juices.
- 10. The horned melon.
- 12. "I saw my life branching out before me like the green fig tree in the story. From the tip of every branch, like a fat purple fig, a wonderful future beckoned and winked," author.
- 13. Ironically, it's the official state vegetable of Oklahoma.
- 15. Hanna-Barbera's Huckleberry.
- 16. The favorite beverage of old people and Lt. Commander Worf.
- 19. Small red VeggieTales character; arguably non-fruit.
- 21. His 15th album was entitled "Last Mango In Paris".
- 22. At the middle of a nectarine. No, not "A".
- 24. She first sang "Strange Fruit".
- 26. Violet who turned into a blueberry.
- 27. The ultimate untasty/difficult fruit charted by XKCD.
- 29. A non-edible smartphone.
- 30. TV show extolling the fictional Tico Berry.
- 32. Jones who nearly ate poisoned dates.
- 33. Top _____.
- 34. Flightless puntable bird.
- 35. Greek goddess tempted by pomegranate.
- 36. Literally, *pomme de tourteau*.



Down

- 2. Malfunctioning car.
- 3. Colin Hanks/Jack Black 2002 comedy vehicle.
- 4. Kumquats originated here.
- 6. He said "What puts the ape in the apricot?"

- 7. Gemma Arterton's Bond Babe.
- 8. He lives in a pineapple under the sea.
- 11. One of CBC's Top Ten Greatest Canadians.
- 14. Proper name of "And To Think That I Saw It On Mulberry Street"

- author.
- 17. Co-founded Apple.
- 18. Flatulence noise.
- 20. Capital city of Oman and a variety of grape.
- 23. Oh my darling, oh my darling, oh my darling ...

- 25. Grammatically correct title for an inhabitant of a northern Morocco city.
- 28. Homonym for two.
- 29. Dr. Bunsen Honeydew's Muppet assistant.
- 31. Rode a giant peach.

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